

BAY AREA REPORTER

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Britt Must Unite Gay Voters to Win

Gay Clout on the Line; Are Voters Wild About Harry?

by Brian Jones

Harry Britt is on the line — and so are we.

Britt is an unlikely leader in an unexpected race. The race for the Fifth District seat in Congress is the make-it-or-break-it culmination of his political career. Harry Britt will emerge as a page in American history, or a footnote. It will be decided when the polls close in San Francisco on April 7.

NEWS ANALYSIS

We are on the line, too. The leaders of the United States, from the Speaker of the House to the Reagan White House, have their eyes on San Francisco's gay community. They see Britt's campaign as a test of our strength, organization and unity.

Should Britt win, both he and the gay community will be ele-

vated to a new level of national influence. Should Britt lose, it will be equally clear that gay power is waning — and that we are vulnerable.

Either way, the gay community finds itself inextricably linked to the fortunes of a Methodist preacher turned gay crusader named Harry Britt.

Said one local gay political staffer, whose boss is endorsing Britt rival Nancy Pelosi, "This



'With (Sup. John) Molinari, Harry Britt has been in the forefront in getting the most city resources for AIDS that are possible.' Journalist Bruce Pettit. (Photo: Rink)

thing is historic. Sometimes we get so mired down in the local scene that we don't see the big

picture. The whole country is looking at this thing. Sending Harry to Washington is going to

be an enormously powerful symbol. Losing this thing would be a disaster.' (Continued on page 18)

Insurers, Employers Misuse HIV Test

Contra Costa Man Sues Insurance Co. For Publicizing His Antibody Result

by Brian Jones

Gary U. injured his back last year at work in the mail room of a Contra Costa County publishing house. Later, an insurance company doctor examined Gary U. as part of a workers compensation claim. Because part of the exam involved a probe with a needle, Gary U. told the doctor that he was positive for the AIDS antibody. Gary U. said last week he revealed his antibody status out of concern for the doctor.

But Gary U.'s good intentions boomeranged. Now, the insurance company is using Gary U.'s antibody result against him.

The San Francisco-based insurance company wants to deny the workers compensation claim. The insurer argues that the stress of being antibody-positive either caused or contributed to Gary U.'s on-the-job injury. As part of its efforts to fight the claim, the insurance company made Gary U.'s AIDS antibody test result public.

The state's AIDS confidentiality law, passed in 1985, makes it a crime to disclose a person's antibody status without his written consent. But the attorney for Gary U. called that law a paper tiger.

"California has some of the strictest laws in the nation safeguarding AIDS test confidentiality," said Berkeley attorney Alice Philipson. "But the laws do not work and are not enforced."

Philipson said that San Francisco District Attorney Arlo Smith had refused to prosecute



'The (AIDS test confidentiality) laws do not work and are not enforced.'

—Alice Philipson (B.A.R. Photo)

Today

Family: Don't tell this man that gay people are anti-family. He rescued his from Nazi concentration camps. Mary Richards tells the story, page 13.

Sol Stoumen: The former owner of the famous Black Cat won some of the earliest battles for gay rights even though he was not gay. Jose Sarria remembers his friend, page 16.

Invisible: Domestic violence plagues gay relationships but society wants to ignore it. Greg Douthwaite reports, page 19.

Big Girl: And she got the Big Job. Tina Tanner ascended to the Imperial throne Saturday. Allen White reports on the Coronation, page 4. Mr. Marcus adds to the dish, page 32, and for the royal view, turn to page 44.

Bent: This gay love story in Nazi Germany is a cautionary tale relevant to today's headlines, says Steve Warren, page 27.

Inside were signs which church members held high. One read, 'Help Prevent AIDS in Concord.' Another said, 'Protect our children from homosexual exposure.'

Concord Nixes Gay Pride Fest

Parade of Bigots Raises Tensions In Troubled Contra Costa City

by Allen White

The Concord gay community has vowed that there will be a Gay Freedom Week in June despite a storm of protest over a plan for such a public celebration. The announcement comes as the Concord City Council voted Monday night (Feb. 23) to eliminate the word "gay" from the workplan of the Concord Human Relations Commission.

Mayor Ron Mullin, who is up for re-election soon, opened the council meeting by quickly yanking the rug out from under the Human Relations Commission. "The Commission is only advisory and they do not set policy for this city," he said. He called the gay pride event "inappropriate." The City Council then voted unanimously to delete all reference to gays and substitute the phrase, "Civil rights for all persons as provided in federal and state law."

The City Council meeting like the Human Relations Commission the previous week was well attended by local church mem-

bers. People began forming lines to enter the council chambers two hours before the meeting.

But Art Healey, a minister at the Mt. Diablo Metropolitan Community Church, said that several dozen people have already met to start planning for June to celebrate gay rights in the Contra Costa city of 100,000.

"We were spurred on by the controversy here in Concord," Healey said. He noted that there was no agreement yet on a specific plan for June.

Several people have noted that a large contingent, possibly in

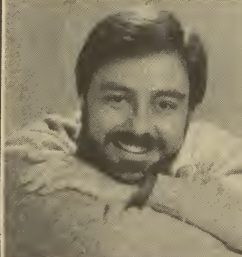
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Concord

(Continued from previous page)
the thousands, might come from San Francisco to participate in the June gay rights event in Concord. The city is the last stop on the BART line from San Francisco.

The controversy began with the proposed workplan of the newly formed Concord Human Relations Commission. The three-page plan calls for the commission to "celebrate and/or officially recognize ethnic and cultural events in cooperation with community organizations."

The workplan lists black history month, Martin Luther King's birthday, women's history month and events to honor the Asian and Hispanic communities. Also listed is "Gay Freedom Week."

Inclusion of the word "gay" sent fundamentalist church members into a frenzied outrage. For the past several weeks they have been writing letters to civic officials, newspapers and just about anyone who will listen.

Last Thursday night (Feb. 19) the issue came to a vote as the Human Relations Commission met to respond to the controversy. In a 6-2 vote, the commission voted to retain the word "gay" and change the wording to "gay civil rights."

The meeting was attended by hundreds of people. Filling the Presbyterian Social Center were members of several church groups. They had tables set up outside to gather signatures. Hundreds spilled outside as the building filled to overflowing.

Inside were signs which church members held high. One read, "Help Prevent AIDS in Concord." Another said, "Protect

our children from homosexual exposure."

The mood was tense and the crowd was filled with hate. Periodically through the evening, church members would jump to their feet and yell at commission members. Any question or comment not to their liking elicited yells and boos.

The only black man in the audience was hissed when he stood and attempted to stop people from yelling bigoted remarks. He left shortly after the meeting started.

Only religious organizations were represented in speaking against gay rights. They included the huge Concord Christian Center and such groups as the Crown of Glory and the Family Worship Center. A man with the name of Ron Reagan represented a group called Traditional Values. The Full Gospel Businessman's Association sent a speaker.

Following two hours of comments, less than ten minutes of which supported gay rights, the commission changed the agenda to discuss their vote.

One amendment was offered which would eliminate the word "gay" and substitute "civil rights for all individuals." It failed.

A second amendment would have eliminated the word "gay" and substituted the phrase "sexual orientation." It also failed. Several commissioners commented that if the word "gay" could not be used by the commission on a piece of paper, it surely could not be mentioned with ease out on the street.

The hundreds of church members in the audience bristled as the final vote was taken by the Human Relations Commission.

The vote was 6-2 in favor of retaining "gay civil rights."

Several in the audience screamed they wanted the commissioners to resign. The meeting quickly adjourned.

Following the meeting, the church members began to quickly begin their strategy for getting the word "gay" off the city records. One church member displayed his bigotry to an Asian member of the committee. Pointing his finger and yelling, he said, "Do you want Concord to have a parade like in San Francisco where that Jew woman Dianne Feinstein is standing and blessing the crowd?" The man noted that he had copies of the 1979 CBS television show *Gay Power*, *Gay Politics* which could show activity in S&M bars in San Francisco.

At the back of the auditorium people were instructed to "call your councilman." For the next few days that is what they did. Literally hundreds of calls were made to pressure the Concord City Council.

Meanwhile, the Concord Human Relations Commission still functions and receives complaints of discrimination. Reports indicate that the commission receives a complaint of bigotry and racism in Concord on the average of one every other day. Measured on a per capita basis, this figure is roughly three times higher than in the city of San Francisco.

Concord has also been the scene of recent racial problems. In one case, a young, gay black man, Timothy Lee, was found hanged near the BART station. Some believe the Ku Klux Klan was involved although police have called the death a suicide.

FBI Begins Probe of Alternative Therapy Group

The FBI has begun an investigation of Project Inform, the private research group which monitors the use of alternative therapies to AIDS. Many of the drugs are not legally approved for sale or use as AIDS treatments in the United States.

The FBI investigation began after Project Inform co-founder Martin Delaney criticized U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) Commissioner Frank Young. Delaney criticized Young

during the taping of an ABC News Nightline segment to be aired Monday, March 2.

ABC News showed Delaney's comments to Young for the FDA commissioner's response. The

next day, Delaney said, the San Francisco office of the FBI telephoned and asked Delaney to appear for an interview by FBI agents.

Delaney has refused to talk to the FBI "until they tell me what it is they want to talk to me about, which they have not been willing to do so far."

Long-time gay activist John Wahl, an attorney, is representing Delaney in the case.

Brian Jones

Employer Denies Firing Over AIDS Claim

by Allen White

A Daly City restaurant has been sued for allegedly firing a waiter because, he claims, the owners mistakenly believed he had AIDS. Jack Mosby, 44, now a Las Vegas waiter, claims he lost his job when the restaurant received a call saying he had AIDS and threatening pickets if he was not taken off the job. Doctors have confirmed that Mosby does not have AIDS.

Mosby claims in his suit that he was a waiter at Joe's Westlake for two years. In September, 1985, he was hospitalized for approximately two weeks with back problems.

When he returned to work the restaurant's manager, Hal Bobrow, allegedly told Mosby that an employee had received an anonymous telephone call from someone who claimed they had seen Mosby's hospital records. They were told the records showed he had AIDS.

Both Mosby and Bobrow say there was a meeting to discuss the problem. But each person has a different version of the meeting.

Mosby says his boss told him

they did not want to have a person working at the restaurant who people thought had AIDS. He says he was also told that he was fired.

Hal Bobrow counters that in the meeting he was sympathetic to the concerns of his employee. He said that he did not fire Mosby and that, in fact, he could still come to work in the restaurant. "I told him I was happy to hear that he didn't have AIDS," Bobrow told the Bay Area Reporter.

Bobrow did confirm that the restaurant did receive a phone call. He said the person who called said they would circulate a petition outside the restaurant if Mosby wasn't fired. He also said

the caller stated they had access to the hospital records.

Bobrow said it was agreed in the meeting that Mosby would take two weeks off. "I never heard from him again," he said.

Paul Wotman, Mosby's attorney, said, "In my opinion and in my client's opinion, Joe's Westlake reacted hysterically to the false rumor Mosby had AIDS. Knowing him to be gay, their own fears were played upon by this alleged anonymous telephone call. Employers in California must recognize they must obey state law and cannot fire employees based upon false rumors or because of their medical condition if they are able to work."

Wotman noted that just last week the state Department of Fair Employment and Housing ruled that AIDS was a medical condition covered under state law. He said, "Employers may not discriminate on the basis of this condition. Though he did not have AIDS, Joe's Westlake perceived he did," the attorney continued.

Mosby's suit asks for unspecified damages for being wrongfully terminated. No court date has yet been set.

KQED Delivers Punch Line For Gay Comic, But Nobody's Laughing

by Charles Linebarger

Gay comic Danny Williams has charged that he was misused by public broadcaster KQED and by the producer of Comedy Tonight, Frank Zamacona. KQED representatives also canceled last Friday's meeting with gay community representatives and Supervisors Harry Britt and John Molinari.

The events leading up to this most recent dispute with the station began Jan. 22 when Frank Zamacona told Danny Williams in a phone conversation that he liked Williams' comedy routine and wanted to see it at the Baybrick Inn Jan. 30.

At the Baybrick, Williams did a 40-minute comedy set which was well received, the gay comic remembers. That night Zamacona had brought two people from KQED, one of them Nathan Katzman, manager of channels 9 and 32. After the show, Williams recalls being praised fulsomely by Zamacona and his guests. "They told me my routine was really accessible to them and they really loved it," said Williams.

"Frank called me on Monday (Feb. 2)," Williams recalled, "and he praised my performance. But he said he had seen Tom Ammi-ano perform at the straight comedy competition and that he had looked around and the straight people had seemed uncomfortable with the gay material."

"He said that he wanted me to perform at the Punch Line the following Sunday so he could see how a straight audience reacts to me. But he didn't want any gay material. He said that over and over again," said Williams.

"I don't want you to do any gay stuff because funny is funny," Williams recalls Zamacona saying.

Williams did just that. But according to Williams, the next time Zamacona called him, he said, "When you were out there you had them in the palm of your hand but you just didn't run with it. I asked what he meant. And he said, well you just didn't do enough gay material. I said, wait a minute Frank, you told me not to do any gay material." Zamacona denied ever saying that, said Williams.

MORE EXPERIENCE

Zamacona then told Williams that he needed more experience. "He said that what I needed to do is to perform in straight comedy clubs for a year and get lots of good experience. I told him that the straight clubs are not really into hiring gay comics doing gay material."

Zamacona did not return B.A.R.'s calls, but Nathan Katzman did. "My understanding is that Frank asked Danny to do a routine of the sort that would be on Comedy Tonight. I wasn't around when the actual words were spoken."

"I thought he just missed it," said Katzman, who said he had been at the Punch Line also when Williams performed for Zamacona. "He should have done his gay material."

Katzman said that Kate Clinton had been chosen to appear on Comedy Tonight as the gay or lesbian comic. But comic Jeanine Stobel, when asked about Clinton, said, "To my knowledge Kate Clinton is not an openly lesbian comic. When I saw her she did not do openly lesbian material and I've seen her twice at women's music festivals. She is very good but she doesn't do lesbian stuff at all."

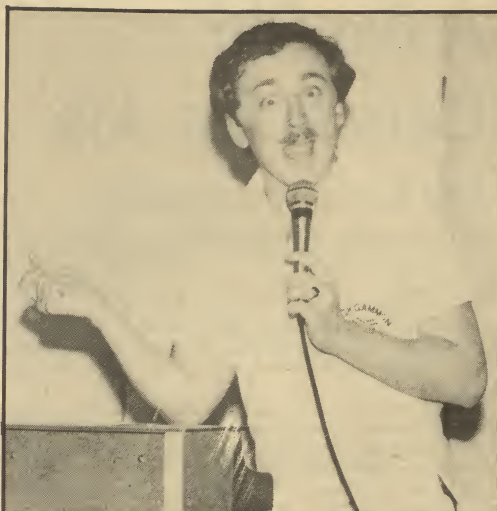
Rick Pacurar, who has been involved with the seven-week long gay negotiations with the station, told B.A.R., "It certainly seems to indicate that Nat Katzman's commitment to include gay comedy was purely words with no commitment behind it. This kind of thing underscores the necessity of getting solid verifiable commitments from KQED."

Talking about the possibility of organized protests to take place when KQED's annual pledge drive begins on Mar. 7 was Bill Paul, who has planned many similar rallies. "I think that

there's a very good chance that there will be a protest. People are quite aware of KQED's behavior. There's a growing sense of anger and exasperation toward KQED by the lesbian and gay community. We can predict organized protests during their pledge drive."

MONEY CHANGING HANDS

Kary Schulman with the city's Hotel Tax Fund told B.A.R. that KQED requested \$100,000 from their \$150,000 city grant, at the beginning of January. That was



Danny Williams.

(Photo: Rink)

when hearings were slated to begin before the Board of Supervisors on the advisability of giving the station that funding. The Hotel Tax Fund, said Schulman, sent KQED that \$100,000 on Jan. 15. Fifty thousand dollars remains to go to the station out of this year's grant. Another \$300,000 is slated to go to KQED

during the next two years from city coffers.

Gay leaders, with Supervisors Britt and Molinari, will be meeting with Tony Tiano and Nathan Katzman of KQED on Friday, Feb. 27. Last week's meeting was canceled when Katzman was unable to attend it.

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A Big Girl Gets A Big Job

Tina Tanner Now Empress; McGonigle Elected Emperor

by Allen White

Tina Tanner is now the 22nd Empress of San Francisco and Patrick McGonigle was chosen as the 15th Emperor last Saturday night as the Imperial Court celebrated its lavish Coronation Ball.

The Imperial Court is the organization of all of San Francisco's Emperors and Empresses. In existence for over two decades, the people who have been voted these titles represent one foundation of San Francisco's gay community.

The Imperial Coronation is one of the more unique and spectacular events in the community. All sorts of monarchy from the United States and Canada attend. This year there were representatives from all over California, from Alaska and Hawaii and from Canada.

But amidst all the glitter were rumblings of discontent as many royal personages began directly confronting drug and alcohol abuse within their ranks. Said Empress Remy, "They must understand that the community must be more important than a cocktail. Candidates have an obligation to the community to present themselves in a sober and responsible manner."

Empress Ginger echoed that view, saying, "Their public demeanor must always bring credit, not criticism. Their finances must be such that temptation will not lead them."

Emperor Ken Wright stated,

"For the first time we rejected two candidates for different reasons. It is an example of our becoming more responsible."

"When I was Emperor ten years ago, drugs and liquor were fashionable, everybody did them," said Emperor Bob Cramer. "We must realize that no longer is the case."

Substance abuse problems in the last few months threatened to cause cancellation of this year's Coronation. Past heads of the Imperial Court were forced to step in and organize last Saturday night's event. The key people given credit for making the evening a success were Empress Sissy Spaceout, Emperor Ken Wright and Empress Ginger. The three used their skills to make the sold out event a success.

Throughout the evening there were bursts of theatrical efforts. This year, the second Empress of San Francisco, Bella, made an entrance rising high above the Gift-



Empress Tina and Emperor Patrick are crowned at the Giftcenter last Saturday night. (Photo: R. Pruzan)

center floor on a hydraulic lift.

Drawing one of the standing ovations of the night was Duchess Deena Jones with a stunning "live" vocal presentation. A special entrance of the evening was the arrival of the current Grand Duchess, Lola Lust, and Mike D'Dyke, Grand Duke.

The election of Emperor and Empress has been a heated campaign. The voting was done a week and a half ago at the San Franciscan Hotel.

Candidate Tatiana was successful in pulling together a group of people, many participating in this part of the gay community for the first time. They gave the event an air of youth and enthusiasm.

Candidate Lily Street was another who added luster to the selection of Empress in 1987. Like all the candidates, Lily Street was adept at combining the serious with the frivolous aspects of the campaign.

The winner was Tina Tanner, who had carefully picked many who had worked on previous campaigns. The Galleon's Jerry Colletti said, "We put together a well oiled machine and it worked!"

Compared to the Empress campaign, the Emperor's is visually more subdued. Rick Manning worked for several months to line up support. Both he and winner Patrick McGonigle had mailings and both were present for many campaign appearances with their followers.

A statement of the political power of the court system was the introduction of John Molinari and Harry Britt. Bob Ross introduced them, saying, "These are my candidates for Mayor and for United States Congress." The

remark sent political signals reverberating across the room.

Sup. John Molinari left no doubt that he believed the election of gay candidate Harry Britt to Congress was a top priority of his. He said, "The whole country will be watching," summarizing the significance of a gay candidate winning a seat in the United States Congress.

The following day, Jose, the first Empress and the Widow Norton, officially departed San Francisco from the steps of City Hall. The first departure in a hot air balloon was postponed because of rain. Last Sunday, the Widow Norton had to forego the balloon again because of the high wind. One organizer said, "What would we have done if she had been blown away?"



There are many times for smiles on the campaign trail for Harry Britt. (Photo: S. Martin)

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Direct Action On Quarantine

Responding to attempts by the California Conference of Local Health Officers to adopt a "model policy/procedure" of forced quarantine in California for "persons infected or suspected to be infected with HIV," a group of AIDS activists have begun preparing for direct action.

The group formed after copies of a planned quarantine policy were leaked to the gay community and is attempting to mobilize support to circumvent adoption of any AIDS quarantine policy. If such policy were

adopted, it would have much the same effect of Proposition 64: building of isolation camps, turning health officers into police, and sending the epidemic underground.

The activists will be meeting this Friday evening, Feb. 27, to continue planning for direct actions to begin over the next weeks. Anyone interested in participating in nonviolent direct actions are urged to please attend. Further details and location can be had by calling 584-4325; ask for Keith.

Coming Home Hospice Opens Its Doors

Former Convent Turns to AIDS Care

by Ray O'Loughlin

Coming Home Hospice officially opened its doors Feb. 19 when Sup. Nancy Walker cut the gold ribbon and Gannett Foundation presented a check for \$120,000 topping off the fundraising campaign at \$704,000. Formal dedication was completed at a special Mass of Thanksgiving, Sunday, Feb. 22, at Most Holy Redeemer Church, who donated the building.

The 15-bed facility is due to receive its first patients March 2 and expects to serve 120 people annually. Ten of those 15 beds are reserved for people dying of AIDS. The remainder are for victims of other terminal illnesses.

Walker hailed the project as a breakthrough in medical care. "The opening of this hospice residence for people with AIDS and other life threatening illness continues the lead San Francisco has set in developing programs for compassionate and cost effective care," said Walker.

She said that the city must commit itself "to finding a way to provide more hospice care."

Dr. David Werdegard, director of the city's Department of Public Health, called Coming Home "a model to the nation for the most difficult area of care, care for those who are dying." He praised the hospice as an example of the public and private sectors working together.

At least 60 percent of the \$704,000 raised for the project came from individual donors. The gay and lesbian community is credited with raising nearly half the funds needed to renovate the unused former convent of Most Holy Redeemer parish. Coming Home bingo alone raised \$45,000 for the effort.

In presenting the check for \$120,000, Harry Brooks, representing the Gannett Foundation, said it was the humanitarian concept and the partnership of Most Holy Redeemer parish, the gay community, and the Visiting Nurses Association (parent organization for Hospice of San Francisco), that attracted interest at Gannett, one of the 20 largest foundations in the U.S.

Other foundation donors included \$75,000 from the Crescent Porter Hale Foundation, \$22,000 from the Henry J. Kaiser Family Foundation, and \$10,000 from the Levi-Strauss Foundation.

The City of San Francisco also kicked in \$93,000 in funds from the Mayor's Office of Community Development.

Under the management of Michael Reedy, Coming Home Hospice will provide services in a home-like setting to people in the last stages of terminal illness. Hospice teams of nurses, social workers and volunteers will provide care as they do in individual homes. Attendants (para-professional health care workers) will be available 24 hours a day to provide personal care and supervision.

Residents will be supported to maintain maximum indepen-



The teddies will be distributed to Coming Home Hospice residents.

(Photo: S. Martin)

dence and control over their lives in a safe setting. Residents and their families will have volunteers available to them for support, bereavement counseling and pastoral care.

Compared to hospital costs of \$700 to \$1,000 per day, resident hospice care is estimated to cost \$130 per day. Charges are based on a sliding scale determined by the ability to pay. Some costs are covered by insurance, MediCal and MediCare.

Coming Home is administered by Hospice of San Francisco, a community based program of the Visiting Nurses Association. VNA recently became a part of Pacific Presbyterian Medical Center. In addition to the new residential facility, Hospice also maintains home-care for approximately 65 people with AIDS and 30-40 people with other illnesses.



For questions on admission to Coming Home, call the Hospice Intake Department, 861-8705. ●

Rev. Tony McGuire, pastor of Most Holy Redeemer Church, hands over the keys of Coming Home Hospice to Mike Reedy. (Photo: T. Plewik)

New Director for AIDS Action Council

The AIDS Action Council has hired Ann E. McFarren to be its new executive director, according to an announcement Feb. 4 by the Council's board of directors. The previous executive director, Gary B. MacDonald, resigned last October but has stayed on to manage the Council until his successor could be hired and trained. The board said McFarren would begin her new duties in mid-March.

McFarren was most recently vice-president for affiliate development and education of Planned Parenthood Federation of America in New York. Prior to that she was executive director and a founder of Planned Parenthood of Northwest Indiana. McFarren has a degree in nursing from the University of Michigan. She has also worked extensively with service, health and government organizations, trade associations and small businesses as a private consultant.

AIDS Action Council is a national lobbying organization that focuses on federal AIDS funding and policy issues. It represents more than 225 AIDS service-providing organizations located throughout the U.S.

Council board co-chair Leonard Bloom, representing Gay Men's Health Crisis in New York, said, "We couldn't be more pleased that Ann has accepted our offer. The search committee was unanimous in her selection. Ann certainly has the commitment, expertise and drive we are seeking in a new director. She's also politically savvy and a devel-

opment pro, two skills that are crucial to the Council's future."

Matt Redman, co-chair representing AIDS Project Los Angeles, added that McFarren's first priorities would be to continue and strengthen the Council's lobbying program while raising money to expand staff and services.

"I am honored to join this urgent fight at a time when I believe the tide is turning in favor of comprehensive action," McFarren said in an interview from New York. "I recognize and am humbled by the contributions that Gary and others have made to get us all to this point. I will do my best to build on them."

"My entire career has been about issues of education and prevention, particularly issues of public health and sexual responsibility. I think that as a woman, a nurse and a parent I bring a unique perspective to AIDS, a perspective this society needs. I am also aware that as we go forward to address issues related to all people impacted by AIDS, we must never forget the special concerns and needs of the gay community." ●

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EDITORIAL & OPINION

Give 'Em Hell, Harry!



(Photo: Savage Photography)

The Bay Area Reporter is pleased to endorse Harry Britt for Congress. We encourage all of our readers to support Harry too.

Harry Britt for Congress makes sense. There are times when we become complacent and apathy sets in. We take too many things for granted and we forget how many gay men and women fought, and yes, died for the few rights we have attained. Living in San Francisco where gay men and women are very involved in the body politic makes us all think we can do what we wish. We work hard building coalitions or alliances and usually wind up supporting a "friend of the community," in the hope that he or she will help us achieve higher goals toward gay liberation.

We go along with some of the powers that be and are always promised a little bit more, if we jump through the hoops a little bit longer. We are constantly asked for help, i.e., campaign contributions, precinct workers, envelope stuffers and financial help. The carrot is constantly being dangled in front of us and we dance right along with it. Along comes a day when the carrot drops and everyone says "oh, it's not yours, it has to go to another friend of the community."

Bullshit. It's time to grab that carrot and run like hell with it.

A little over ten years ago a man named Harvey Milk was elected to public office in San Francisco. This was done after several years of eating crow and being humiliated by these same powers that be. He proved an out front gay person could be elected to office. Since then there are several up front gay men and lesbians in elected positions in California and other states.

What about here in San Francisco, "the city that knows how," what do we have? We have more than 20 percent of the voting population and we have LESS than 20 percent of the appointments. We have two elected public officers and two judges (appointed by an enlightened governor). These four — three men and one woman — have all been re-elected to

their respective positions by the electorate as a whole, why? Because they are competent and capable public servants.

What is the difference between the gay community and the other community? Only one thing, our sexuality. We face one of the greatest killers in our existence, AIDS. As a community we have been beaten down with this thing but not defeated, we have proved that we can take care of our own, and we have rallied ourselves for the long siege ahead. As the disease crosses over barriers to the straight community, we suddenly see more money and help on the way. Why not help it along by sending one of our own to Congress to help shake the money tree? Let us stop believing in "friends of the community" and send an electable Harry Britt to Congress.

We have heard all the negatives on Harry Britt and have often published them in these pages. But upon reflection, the time is now, to stand up for gay liberation and put our petty likes and dislikes aside and rally behind a *thrice elected* Harry Britt.

The time is here for a forward surging rally, a rally for victory in sending an openly gay man to Congress. No more complacency or apathy, it's us against the powers that be for true gay liberation.

"Give 'em hell, Harry" in Congress.

Bob Ross

We must all rally behind the only gay candidate who can win. Money and support are critical and any help you can give would be appreciated. To make donations of money or time contact:

Harry Britt for Congress
25 Van Ness Avenue
San Francisco, CA 94102
(415) 864-6410

Duke Supports Harry

This letter was sent to Mr. Kevin Wadsworth:

★ Dear Kevin:

Yesterday's *Examiner* reports that you are intending to run for Congress in the April 7 special election. If this is true I want you to know that I cannot support you in this endeavor. My reasons are these:

- I have already made a commitment to Sup. Britt. After Lee Dolson declined to enter the fray, no viable Republicans of any kind were on the scene. In viewing the field of competing liberal Democrats, my commitment to the gay rights movement and my continuing concern for the AIDS crisis overrode all other considerations and prompted me, despite his deficiencies, to support Harry Britt. That decision was made two days ago before I heard anything about your possible candidacy. I cannot now honorably withdraw the commitment I have made to the Britt campaign. I am already listed as a sponsor on two Britt fundraisers which are in the works.

- You have no prospect of winning. I know that sounds cruel, but it is a simple reality of politics in our city today. Our party locally is all but defunct, and I am not prepared to throw away my time and money on a futile campaign. Politics is the art of the possible, and if you are going to play it you must do so with an eye to the realities of the situation. Those realities are that no Republican can win in the Fifth Congressional District at this time. Milton Marks proved that in 1982. No conceivable scenario gives you even a minimal chance of victory.

- Most importantly, your entry in the race threatens to deprive our community of a Congressional seat by dividing us. The lesbian/gay community of San Francisco has a once in a lifetime chance to make a substantive political gain. The final collapse of the Burton machine leaves a political vacuum which a host of politicians is scrambling to fill. I would like to see at least a part of that power revert to our community—even in the guise of Harry Britt. But we can only do that if we unite behind a single candidate. If we divide we will be conquered by Pelosi or Maher and so continue to be ruled by straight liberal Democrats. Your campaign threatens to peel off gay votes from Britt and so defeat him from the inside. That will shut us out of power for years to come. It is destructive, and I will have no part of it.

I remember a dozen years ago when many of us gay Republicans set aside our party differences in order to work for Harvey Milk in his race against the Democratic establishment candidate, Art Agnos. We lost that election, but it was seminal for our movement. Today's race, so many years later, is against the same old foes and is of the same importance to our cause. Once again it is important that we not divide the community.

Kevin, I have in the past been pleased and proud to work on your campaigns for public office. They have always been positive and thoughtful efforts. But this hopeless Congressional bid engenders no such feelings. It is doomed to failure at the outset and threatens only to cause protracted political damage to the community we have both worked so long to serve.

Duke J. Armstrong
San Francisco

Blatant Discriminator

This letter was sent to the Director, Human Rights Commission, City and County of San Francisco:

★ I'm complaining about the city leasing out Candelstick Park to the world's most blatant discriminator and bigot.

Human Rights officials in New York City cancelled all of the city's contracts with the Catholic Church because of the church's blatant employment and housing discrimination practices. I ask you to do the same under the powers granted you under Sec. 12B(3) of the Administrative Code of the City and County of San Francisco. Further, I ask that you declare the Catholic Church to be an "irresponsible contractor" under Sec. 12B(2)(h).

It shouldn't be any problem to prove that they discriminate since they openly admit it.

Rev. Donald Jackson
San Francisco

Gays and Smurfs

★ It is time for gay people of conscience to once and for all declare that they cannot be bought, sold or packaged as a unit. That we will not support anyone because they are gay, if in point of fact they have nothing else to recommend them as a rational, thoughtful, caring person. I certainly will not vote for any one as a representative of the gay community if I personally have no respect for that person. I would not want any one looking askance at us because of some fool representing us in public.

To my mind, Harry Britt is such a fool. His record as Supervisor is sadly lacking. He does not have the charisma to marshal this diverse group of people let alone a broad base of this city. Whether he is gay or a smurf does not matter. He is a bloody fool, a court jester who is accepted for the moment. When some one in the gay community has the courage to run against him, Britt will be left to dangle in the wind. A victim of his own lack of involvement and commitment to the heart and soul of the community he purports to represent.

I for one, will cast my vote for Nancy Pelosi and gladly do so. I believe that if Ms. Pelosi wins, it will be more of a victory for the gay community and people of conscience throughout this city and that this city will have a representative that it can be proud of. We have had enough of the Britt and Feinsteins and Nelders. It is time that this city hold its head high and say that enough is enough! Harry Britt and all the other mediocre talents this city has had to suffer through should go on their merry way—good riddance!

A. Haron Masters
San Francisco

Britt: Progressive and Independent

★ Were all the candidates in the Fifth Congressional District equal, I would cast my vote for Harry Britt simply because he is gay.

But all the candidates are not equal. Sup. Britt is by far the superior choice in every respect that matters.

Certainly Harry will be the most dedicated and most eloquent spokesman for increased AIDS funding and the extension of our rights as gays. He will fight for legislation that will free all of us from the worry of not being able to afford needed medical care. He is a strong advocate of legislation benefiting senior citizens, especially those trying to survive on fixed incomes. He will seek to cut expenditures out of an obscenely bloated military budget before even looking at possible reductions in social and educational programs.

Harry's principal opponent has no known views on any subject short of how to raise lots of money. She will presumably let us in on her views as the campaign progresses—after first checking with the power brokers and big-money contributors who support her.

Harry Britt is not only progressive, he is independent. He deserves to be our Representative from the Fifth Congressional District.

John van Heusden
San Francisco

Making a Job Easier

★ Last week, I felt privileged to watch as hundreds of visitors came to the Open House tours at Coming Home Hospice. I felt proud to be connected to this wonderful Hospice of San Francisco program. But this is not an "official" letter.

I felt proud to be a lesbian and part of a community of compassionate and loving gay men and lesbians who have outdone themselves in raising funds for the creation of Coming Home Hospice. The diversity of our entire community was reflected in the extensive list of over 1,500 donors—I wish I could thank each one of you personally. In the past 17 months I have met and worked with people I might never have met if not for the "cause" that brought us together. I want to extend a few special thank-yous:

- Bill Wheatley of Floratek, for his beautiful donations of floral arrangements;
- To all the Castro Merchants who have generously supported this project over and over again;
- To Susan, Dan, Mike and Kile for their support; and
- All of the volunteers who put their hearts as well as their hands to work on this project.

You have all made my job easier and have created something very special. It made me cry and it made me smile. We all deserve a standing ovation!

Debra Kent Friedland
San Francisco

Condom Advertising

★ If the use of condoms reduced even one unwanted pregnancy or disease, the pain avoided by that use is worth the maturing of any government or individual.

So what's wrong with condom ads? Is it:

- The inability to learn from obvious experience? or,
- Some Victorian value? or,
- Denial of the creative abilities? or,
- Decreased pleasure?

A final thought: if an individual calls him/her-self learned—should not s/he act like it?

C. David Nelson
San Francisco

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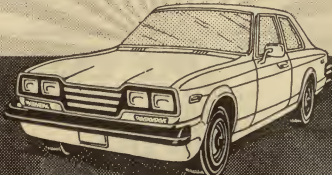
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LETTERS

Lies And Misconceptions

★ It is unfortunate that there are communities such as Concord where hate-filled people force the government and community to adhere to their "moral" totalitarianism and malevolence. Supposedly the United States stands for "freedom and justice for all," but I must question the meaning of the term, since it seems that the establishment is twisting its meaning and, thus, excluding a large segment of the population.

I am a gay black man. I moved here from Oklahoma two years ago. Even in Oklahoma I rarely experienced the prejudice I've seen here in California, and particularly in Concord.

I would like to know how the religious dogmatists justify their belief that they are the majority of the taxpayers and voters in Concord and Contra Costa County; thus, that they have the right to deny freedom and justice to any group of its citizens. The fact that a group of people are in the minority doesn't justify that they aren't entitled to the same rights, privileges and protection that the majority of citizens have. One would think that this lesson was learned from the Civil Rights struggles of the 1960s.

Gay people pay taxes on the same streets, utilities and public places that bigots use yet, get less protection against discrimination (from even the highest legislative and judicial bodies) than other groups of constituents. Gay people vote in the same elections that bigots vote in yet, they are faced with elected officials who refuse to grant them equal status under the law because of right-wing political pressure. Gay people shop in the same stores that bigots shop in yet, when it comes to the fact that gay people spend dollars in the community like everyone else, their positive contributions to the state of the community (financial, cultural or otherwise) are ignored. Meanwhile, lies and misconceptions about gay people are indoctrinated into society, so that hatred toward homosexuals can be perpetuated for future generations. Apparently, this is what true freedom is all about.

The Concord Human Relations Commission deserves commendation for its recognition that civil and human rights are for all people.

Gary Branch
Concord

Not Up For Compromise

★ What a world we live in! Hardly a day passes that a casual perusal of the Chronicle or the Examiner doesn't produce even more examples of bigotry and outright hatred toward gays. And nary a week has passed for a couple of months now that we aren't treated in the Letters column of the B.A.R. to at least one diatribe about how perfectly awful it is that the Sisters of Perpetual Indulgence are planning "welcoming" activities for the Pope.

E. S. Alderette, in his letter of Feb. 12, says he feels "deep shame" when he sees a gay man dressed as a nun. What are we as a community coming to when we seem ready, willing and able to inflict such fascist moralism on a group of gay men (and women) who are simply exercising their rights in a free society to amuse, shock, and yes, offend.

I suggest that the issue here is not the Pope and the moronic Catholicism he represents. Whether or not the Catholic Church is beneficial or detrimental to the world, and, especially, to gays, is another issue and another letter. The true issue here is whether or not gays in San Francisco have the guts to say to an increasingly moralistic, fear-ridden (and powerful) straight society that the freedom to be different and to allow others to be different are issues which are not up for compromise.

Long live the Sisters!

Ron Walker
San Francisco

Present Facts Clearly

This letter was sent to Pete Wilson, KGO News, 900 Front Street, San Francisco, CA 94111:

★ Dear Mr. Wilson,

On Wednesday and Thursday (Feb. 18 and 19), KGO News (and other stations as well) broadcast the latest epidemiologic forecasts about the numbers of AIDS cases expected by 1992. The gist of the story was that 60 percent of infected individuals would develop full-blown AIDS rather than the 20 percent previous forecast. That story's lead was along the lines of "... despite all the warnings and public education about AIDS, researchers released terrifying new statistics ..."

The fact is that all the warnings and public education that are going on now don't have anything to do with the epidemiologic forecast that was just made. The warnings and public education right now are trying to prevent AIDS cases five or ten years from now. By linking the two issues (public education in 1986-1987 and the rise in AIDS cases in the future)

there is an implication that people are living recklessly. Many people will assume that the gay community is simply living it up in the face of death.

Nothing could be further from the truth. Most of the AIDS cases we're seeing now—and will continue to see for some years to come—are the result of infection with the HIV virus that occurred from as far back as six or seven years. Six years ago no one even knew about AIDS, and it wasn't until three or four years ago that there were any warnings or public education about AIDS. And much of that public education was limited within the gay community until only recently. People who changed their lifestyles in, say, 1983 (when public education in the gay community really began) may have already been infected and may still be "incubating."

Reporting a story this way leads to public confusion about the facts. People will get the wrong idea about the length of time it can take to develop AIDS and about the incredible changes that have taken place in the gay community in terms of lifestyle and safe sex. People will continue to blame gays for spreading the disease—which can only lead to more hysteria and prejudice—when, in fact, people are watching in dismay as lengthy infections take their toll.

Won't you consider giving more detailed coverage of the complexities of AIDS in the future? It is a confusing issue, and the only way to dispel the confusion and panic is to present the facts as clearly and completely as possible.

Paul Reed
San Francisco

Proud, Strong and United?

★ "Proud, Strong, United" These are the words of "our" National Gay Pride slogan for 1987. If they were only true.

So many times in the year since my arrival to the "Gay Mecca"; the "Center of the Universe of the Gay World," I've seen just the opposite ... Sadly so!

Before moving to San Francisco I had such dreams of living in The City. A city of brotherhood; of strength and pride. San Francisco and its gay community were to be for me the epitome of what love, honor, and unity were among us—as homosexuals professed it to be. I now feel somewhat disillusioned.

I have been told by many that there is much pride, strength, and unity within "our" community. Where is it? Where was it Tuesday morning at 8 a.m. to show support for the Vigilers at the Federal building? The press outnumbered the supporters by a little more than 4 to 1. Shameful! This is Pride? Unity? Strength? I realize people work, but to have just a small handful there—it was disheartening!

Where is our pride, strength and unity when we allow our own to walk the streets homeless, hungry and alone? Some are too proud and others are too ill to ask for help. Why don't we just offer? Are we so blind to this or is it just so much easier to turn our backs?

Proud, Strong, United—don't let these words be just another slogan—words to be used for the year at special functions, parties and the parade.

George H. Goutier, Jr.
San Francisco

Voice Your Concerns

★ Pres. Ronald Reagan's capriciousness concerning the AIDS epidemic is tantamount to murder. The National Institute of Medicine recommends that we spend \$2 billion annually on AIDS research and education. The 1987 Reagan budget asks for one-fourth of this amount while experts predict the number of AIDS cases will increase tenfold by 1991.

Along with the gay community, the black community is suffering disproportionately from the AIDS epidemic. We have 25 percent of the nation's 30,000 cases. Of women with AIDS, 51 percent are black and 58 percent of children with AIDS are black. Funds must be allocated now, especially to find a cure and to educate our youth—the time bomb we are sitting on continues to increase exponentially in size.

I urge you to write Jim Wright, Speaker of the House of Representatives, and Robert Byrd, Senate Majority Leader, requesting that the National Institute of Medicine's funding recommendations for AIDS be met. You may end up saving your own life or that of a loved one.

The government and medical establishment's inability to deal with the AIDS crisis demonstrates serious flaws in our health system. In fact, the United States and South Africa are the only two industrialized countries without national health insurance. Congressman Ron Dellums has proposed a comprehensive national health insurance program (HR-2049) which insures medical care for everyone. Contact Dellums' office for a copy. It's high time for as much concern in Washington D.C. about AIDS and health as there is for "Star Wars"—let them know how you feel. Write on!

Maudelle Shirek
Berkeley

DEFENDERS

Neglecting Homework

★ It is perhaps symbolic that this note is being penned on Saint Valentine's Day; it has to do with lovers and friends and the blessing of the Church.

Your pages have reflected the intense criticism my Episcopal counterpart, Bishop Swing, has encountered for his stand on Rites of Holy Union for same sex couples. What his critics seem to be missing is that the Bishop's objection is to the form of the Rites proposed, not to their proposal or eventual authorization. His Grace has complained that all the models he has seen are based on heterosexual marriage and that this is not acceptable.

Even hardened gay politicians would, I think, agree that the gay experience requires theories and theologies and forms of celebration unique to that experience.

I would suggest to my Episcopal friends that our Eastern Orthodox Rite for Adoption of Brothers [featured in a B.A.R. article last week] may provide just the kind of religious reflection and ritual that they need. I would also point out in defense of Bishop Swing that some six months ago I telephoned the priest—I do not recall his name—who is the head of the Diocesan Committee set up to study this question by Bishop Swing, and offered to consult with the Committee. He told me he was going on vacation and would call me upon his return. A month or so later I telephoned Fr. Raleigh Jones, a member of that committee and made the same offer. He told me he would speak to other committee members and get back to me.

I have never heard from either of them. Perhaps part of the local Episcopal problem is that some upon whom the Bishop relies have not done their homework rather than that the Bishop is not an open and liberal fellow

Jonah of Berkeley, Bishop
The Orthodox, Byzantine, Old-Calendar
Diocese of Berkeley

Sorry Mess of State

★ The idiots in the Vatican are showing their stupidity again.

... branded as absurd the practice of distributing free condoms in an effort to halt the spread of AIDS, and urging an end to homosexuality as a means of controlling the deadly virus...

Those in the Vatican obviously are unable to read (newspapers or scientific journals) or they would be asking for an end to heterosexuality and/or Africans since this was the reported source of the original virus.

They don't even have enough brains in total to say, "Here is a murderous disease, now let's see what we can do to help." You can't even classify them as part of any Christian religion with all the idols of their gods in their houses of worship. I don't know how they tell which is their head god. Lucifer? Mars? Thor? Maybe with all their gods they are so confused as to what they are to do for each one of them, and they can't remember that the one true God is the good one, the One who tells of His love and kindness and wants us to model ourselves after His ways and not model ourselves after heterosexual role models.

The ignorance continues, for which the world is very much in need of not only leaders, but of lots of education, not this kind of ignorance. For someone who believes they have control over so many people, you would think they would use the brains that God so kindly gave them and do their best to be informed and constantly learn of the world around about them so they would be of some use instead a detriment to their followers and the world. If you don't have the brains, what are you going to give to your people? If they have no brains either, it becomes a real sorry mess of state.

Vernon Link
San Francisco

Rios And Betancourt: Whining Sell-Outs

★ To: Michael Rios and Andrew Betancourt

It's difficult to get beyond your name-calling to any legitimate criticism of the local gay press. I am going to try.

Homosexuals, like all minority groups subjected to general societal oppression, suffer from both primary and secondary forms of victimization. From "straight" majority society, homosexuals suffer intolerance, ostracism, scapegoating, stereotyping, discrimination, intimidation, harassment and violence. This is primary victimization.

From "gay" minority society, homosexuals are then victimized again by their own kind. This is secondary victimization and takes many forms, including: 1) Social pressure to idolize the sexual act and anything which enhances the frequency and intensity of that act—including a myopic fixation on sexual attractiveness, youth and sexual conquest; 2)

Social pressure conducive to alcoholism and drug addiction; 3) Social pressure to remain stagnant, non-productive, and non-growing; and; 4) Social pressure to adopt society's stereotype of homosexual gender-role confusion by ritualistically adopting and exaggerating the traditional dress, mannerisms and speech patterns of the other gender—and harassing and ostracizing those homosexuals who don't engage in such stereotypical behavior.

The result of this secondary victimization by homosexuals against each other is a general sense of disingenuousness and dehumanization. Homosexuals must take responsibility for their own individual actions. When one homosexual victimizes another, he must be called to task.

However, these forms of secondary victimization are the direct product of and could not exist without society's primary victimization of homosexuals. As long as society continues to victimize its homosexual members, gays will continue to victimize each other.

What B.A.R. has been doing is attacking the primary sources of victimization of homosexuals. It has done this admirably. However, it has failed to attack secondary forms of victimization of gays by each other. In fact, it tends to reinforce these secondary forms of victimization at times. Accepting ads by prostitutes is one example. Another example is the printing of columns and editorials which promote sexual promiscuity or the dehumanization of people into stereotyped sexual objects or grotesque parodies of traditional opposite gender roles.

There are other examples.

But, it is easy to see why B.A.R. limits its criticism to attack primary sources of victimization. The gay community is already subjected to widespread media attack by the "straight" press for numerous shortcomings—both real and fabricated. The "straight" press does not distinguish between good and bad homosexuals. We are all equally bad and guilty, regardless of the way in which we live our lives. If we publicly criticize ourselves, the "straight" world will be unable to see it as anything but verification of their often unfounded criticisms.

B.A.R. is not wrong in its complaints about societal injustice. If it appears like whining, it has plenty to justifiably whine about.

Betancourt and Rios, you may be correct in pushing members of the gay community (and its press) to become more responsible in their actions. However, when you start becoming an apologist for the mistreatment of homosexuals by society and its institutions, then you are objectively wrong—and whining sell-outs as well.

Stuart A. McDonald
San Francisco

'New York Times-itis'

This letter was sent to Mr. Scott Simon, Weekend Edition, National Public Radio, Washington, D.C. 20036:

★ Dear Mr. Simon:

I was glad that your program spent much time today on issues of concern to gay people, including the interview with Father O'Neill. However, your choice of language was disappointing.

It's unfortunate that you felt constrained to use the word "homosexual" throughout your program. This is a clinical word that most gay people reject as stigmatizing, for it fails to convey the qualities of community and humanity that inhere in "gay" and "lesbian." Most shocking was your use, immediately after your unctuous reference to the "Holy Father," of the phrase "practicing homosexuals." That is a term (ironically) best left to J. Edgar Hoover-era FBI reports or to Jerry Falwell's jibes. It conveys nothing of the quality of same-sex relationships that may have lasted half a century, like that of the couple you referred to in your obituary story. For sheer derogation it fits right in with "inscrutable Orientals" or "shiftless Negroes."

I fear that "Weekend Edition" has contracted a severe case of "New York Times-itis." The usual symptom is a certain constipation in the use of modern English. This is evident also in your rather prissy insistence in referring to people as "Mr." or "Mrs." (why not at least Ms. Aquino?). Vis-a-vis gays the New York Times' style is based partly on homophobia and partly on intellectual rigidity. It is not followed by any other newspaper in this country, nor is it respected among the few young Times reporters I have met. It's not a model for a radio show. You would never hear CBS's Sunday Morning, the doyen of radio news shows and the embodiment of the highest standard of radio journalism, show its deference to authority by following the term "Holy Father" with a contrasting sneer at "practicing homosexuals." You owe your listeners an apology.

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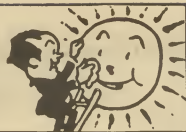
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Wayne Friday

The Free-For-All Is On

Monday's filing date saw six Democrats and four Republicans making their candidacies official for the April 7 special election in the 5th Congressional District. Barring any late invalidation of signatures, the field of Democrats will include Sups. Harry Britt, Carol Ruth Silver, Doris Ward, and Bill Maher, plus Nancy Pelosi, and Brian Lantz, a supporter of right-wing political eccentric Lyndon LaRouche.

Republicans will have a primary fight as well. Their candidates include former county chairperson Harriet Ross, former congressional candidate Mike Garza, gay activist Kevin Wadsworth, and perennial candidate Tom Spinoza. Realistically, none of the GOP candidates have much of a chance in the heavily-Democratic district and the winner of the Democratic party free-for-all on April 7 will go into the June run-off a heavy favorite to win the seat.

With only six weeks remaining before election date, most political observers see the Democratic fight coming down to a close race between Harry Britt and the machine-backed candidate, Nancy Pelosi, with Bill Maher also thought to have a shot at winning the nomination.

Britt enjoys the support of the district's large gay population, as well as that of many political liberals, while Pelosi has the support of what is left of the party machine and will undoubtedly have the most money to spend. While some say that the support of the party "bosses" will help Pelosi get even more money, her opponents are expected to make an issue of the fact she rushed to a Washington hospital to get a death-bed endorsement from the dying congresswoman and has been "anointed" by the party bosses.

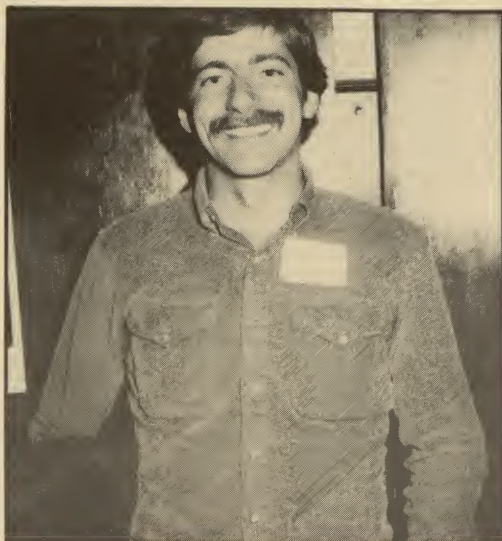
Pelosi has never before run for office, which may or may not hurt her, while both Britt and Maher, and Silver and Ward as well, are political veterans and have successfully tested their political appeal in front of the voters a number of times. Pelosi's biggest big-name supporters are Mayor Dianne Feinstein and former Congressman John Burton who seems to be with her constantly.

Britt has won the endorsement of fellow Sup. John Molinari, Nancy Walker, Tom Hsieh and Richard Hongisto. Silver's aides say she expects to be endorsed by State Senator Quentin Kopp, and Speaker Willie Brown is reportedly ready to stand behind Doris Ward.

The campaign is very short and charges and counter-charges are already beginning to fly. This one could get dirty, very dirty, before April 7 gets here.

★ ★ ★

When the Sacramento press reported that Bon Appetit restaurant in suburban Fair Oaks was losing business because a former chef—who had not worked at the place for five years—recently died of AIDS, the state's top health official, Dr. Kenneth Kizer and 20 staff members promptly went to the restaurant along with seven television cameras to eat dinner last week. Kizer said he and his staff decided on the dinner to take a symbolic stand



Steve Krefting.

(Photo: Rink)



Dr. Ken Kizer.

(Photo: Rink)

against what he called "AIDS hysteria," and to show that "you don't get AIDS from eating food."

In New York City, health officials said last week that they plan to distribute at least a million condoms a year to the public in a campaign to fight the spread of AIDS. The move, predictably, was immediately opposed by the Archdiocese of New York which also criticized a decision by at least 20 television stations across the country to accept and air commercials for condoms.

The Los Angeles Times, in a story on actress Elizabeth Taylor, says that the popular star will "take an even more active and administrative role in raising money for AIDS research this year."

Sup. John Molinari kicks off his mayoral campaign with a big fundraiser at the St. Francis Hotel tonight (cocktails, etc. 5:30-7:30; \$250; 956-5221 for info).

Lt. Gov. Leo McCarthy might have made a lasting political mistake when he told his former gay aide Steve Krefting that he couldn't work on the Britt for Congress campaign and still work at the Lt. Gov. office. As one Milk Club officer put it last week, "Wait until he comes to the gay clubs looking for support in a race for Pete Wilson's job or the governor's race. He'll be in for a very rude awakening."

While Republicans were having their statewide convention last weekend in Sacramento, their hero Gov. George Deukmejian decided to skip the entire thing and go to Washington to hobnob with his fellow governors. Political moderate Robert Naylor, a four-term former Assemblyman, won a bitter contest to become the Republicans new state chairperson.

When did they print those damn things? The invitation to the District Eight Democratic Club's 5th Annual Dinner to be held on March 19 lists the late Sala Burton as a "patron."

Longtime gay activist and party loyalist Gary Miller was recently re-elected as chair of the Democratic party for Sacramento County.

Friends of Sheriff Mike Hennessy are having a campaign fundraiser for the popular lawman on Tuesday, Mar. 10 at the Miyako Hotel (\$150, no-host cocktails; hors d'oeuvres, 6-8 p.m.; 861-4797 for info).

Tomorrow night (Feb. 27), friends of Harry Britt are sponsoring a beer bust and show for his Congressional campaign. Patrick Toner and a host of friends are putting this one together. The show features The Blazing Redheads and Miss Kitty & The Cycle Souls (\$10 admission, 8 p.m.-midnight), and all are welcome.

Mike Hippler

A Guide to the Yucatan

I'm easy. So when my friend John told me that he had made plans for a brief vacation in the Yucatan for the two of us, I readily agreed. Due to a recent knee operation, I warned him, I might not be able to climb Mayan pyramids or rent sailboards, but at least Mexico would be a nice place to recuperate. Besides, like Peter Sellers, I like to watch. Hopefully, I might find something besides John worth watching.

Our first stop was Merida, a Spanish colonial town away from the coast but near the best Mayan ruins. There we stayed at the aptly-named Casa Exilio, a gay guest house run by a man named Roger who ran a guest house in Key West for twelve years.

Roger proved an invaluable guide to the area and lost no time informing us that Merida is "the San Francisco of the Yucatan," a Mecca for Mexican homosexuals. It even has, he said, its own gay bar, Charro's. Although I'm not a great fan of gay bars, Mexican or otherwise, I quickly decided: This I gotta see.

Charro's was right out of the Dark Ages. The entrance, unmarked, was off the lobby of a third-rate hotel and down a steep flight of stairs. Below, the place was pitch-black and resembled nothing so much as a Spanish Inquisition torture chamber. At the few tables which were occupied, elderly tourists and transvestites entertained their boyfriends. The only attractive man there was the waiter. Although John and I might have appreciated it as a cultural experience, we viewed it instead as simply a bore, and we fled just in time to avoid the midnight drag show—which we were later informed was no great loss. (I'm such a cynic.)

Fortunately, the ruins at Uxmal the next day were much more interesting. Slut that I am, I was especially intrigued by the giant phallus of stone and wanted John to take my picture beside it. I thought it would make a great addition to my "Great Phalli of the World" photo collection, but John was nowhere to be found. (Off looking for a dark-skinned beauty, no doubt—an obsession of his.)

Back in Merida, John and I spent an hour or so on the town's cruising strip near the bar. We watched with amusement as some of our gay friends at the Casa tried to pick up the local boys. They succeeded. We didn't know how much it cost them, of course, but at least they ended up

with someone while we had only each other for company.

"Face it, though," I said to John. "Wouldn't you rather sit here and be bitchy than go home with what they got?"

John hesitated, then stayed behind when I went home.

On the road to Chichen Itza, we met a delightful man from Quebec, a 37-year old carpenter named Daniel with disarming eyes and a captivating smile. In an instant I fell absolutely and madly in love with this man—whose lover was sitting in the front of the bus. As it happened, that proved no obstacle, for Daniel and his lover have an "open" relationship (at least from Daniel's point of view). But another problem soon arose in the form of my friend John.

"Mess with this one and I'll scratch your eyes out," I warned John. "I saw him first."

As for me, Daniel saw only John. Perhaps the less said about this the better, but I did learn one thing on this vacation. Never engage in a one-on-one competition with your sister for attention, especially when he is better looking than you. It can only lead to heartbreak.

It didn't help any, either, when Daniel's neglected lover stood beside me on a moonlit beach and said, "I understand. You and I are the same. We were *not* chosen."

Things improved vastly at Coba and Tulum, where John finally said, "Enough ruins. I want the beach!" We then headed up the coast for Playa del Carmen, a palm-shaded village on an exquisite stretch of white sand within view of the island of Cozumel. There we swam, snorkled, and sailed in the bluest of blue waters.

There also I got laid for the first time in weeks (I had to say it) by a San Franciscan who reads this column. (After learning that, *naturally* I had to go to bed with him.) Actually, I laid him for I was the one who pounced, but only after he assured me that his lover back in San Francisco wouldn't mind. "See? He left me the rubbers," my new friend said. "That proves it."

Throughout the Yucatan, John and I were amazed at the number of gay people we met, both native and foreign. The most interesting group of all, perhaps, was the bizarre Bohemian enclave at Playa del Carmen. But at our last stop, Isla Mujeres (the Island of Women), we saw relatively few gay

people.

We did see, however, a poster advertising "A Mejor show transvesti en Mexico"—another drag show. But this one is "simplemente lo mejor!" we were told. Not only does the star imitate various renowned Hispanic performers (including Lupita D'Alessio), but he also does the American singer Grace Jones. I don't know about John, but I was excited—until I saw that we would be gone on the night of the show.

An hour spent on the beach at Cancun, Mexico's version of Miami Beach, was uneventful. We stopped there only to kill time on the way to the airport. I am told, however, that if you are ever in the area and need to mingle with like-minded sybarites, look for the Crocodile bar. The name alone is enough to frighten me off, but if you are brave enough to travel to Mexico and to deal with the water in the first place, you are brave enough to deal with what you find there.

Next Week: A Virginal View of Puerto Vallarta.

Church Reports Year Of Community Service

Since our founding, 18 months ago, Holy Trinity Community Church continued to press forward in its commitment to the local community. While the membership was up at 29, donations were down due to the moving, deaths, and unemployment of many members and friends.

Total 1986 donations were \$10,686.22, down approximately \$2,000 from our first year. However, our Necessities and More ministry for people with AIDS and ARC came from zero one year ago to end 1986 with \$1,370.13. Of this amount, \$694.62 has been given directly to AIDS people through Ensure Plus, a food supplement program, leaving a year-end balance of \$675.51. A special grant from the GGBA in San Francisco of \$500 received in January of this year, has brought the total to \$1,175.51.

Another unique thing for Necessities and More has been that while it is under the tax umbrella

of the church, it is not affiliated with the church, thus enabling it to receive grants. However, the HTCC covers all administrative costs as a donation from the church, thus all donations given go directly to people with AIDS and ARC.

Expenses for the church totaled \$9,971.71. Expenses involved rent, salaries, printing, legal fees, advertising, printing, etc.

Holy Trinity ended the church year with a net worth of \$14.92. Holy Trinity gave \$1,435.24 back to community organizations and individuals who requested assistance from the church this year.

We want you for what you can give.
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Cooking and cleaning for people with AIDS is what the Practical Support Program is all about. There's another side too! You will receive as much as you give. Many of the over 100 Practical Support Volunteers, men and women from all walks of life, will become your friends. Come join and receive as much as you give.

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LIFE AT THE CLOSET DOOR



Justice Prevails: Buckeye Battered

COLUMBUS, Ohio — Perhaps there is some justice in the world after all.

James Rhodes, the former Republican governor of Ohio, was attempting to recapture the governor's chair for the GOP last fall. But Democratic Richard Celeste won easy re-election with 61 percent of the vote. During the campaign, Rhodes — who as Ohio governor in 1970 ordered the Ohio National Guard to start shooting on anti-war protesters at Kent State University, an action which led to four deaths, — slung homophobic mud at Celeste.

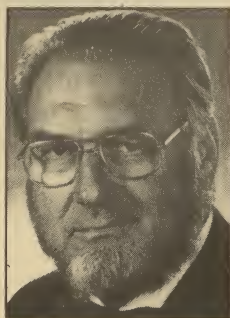
The defeat must have been hard enough for former Nixon favorite Rhodes to take, but his defeat was sweet for gay people to savor. It was revealed recently that Rhodes' campaign contributed 98 percent of an anti-gay group's budget during last November's election.

The group, known as Ohio Citizens for Decency and Health Political Action Committee, carried on a vicious campaign against Celeste. The group bought air time on stations across the state and full-time ads in 23 daily newspapers to warn Ohioans of Celeste's support for gay rights.

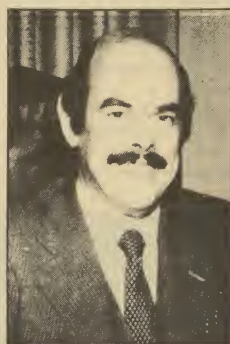
Campaign finance reports filed by the political action committee indicate that Rhodes' campaign gave \$108,190 to the organization. Neither Rhodes' campaign nor the PAC reported the contribution on their required campaign reports until December, even though the contribution was made in October. A Rhodes' spokesperson said it was an oversight due to a bookkeeping error.

Oh, well, it's goodbye, Columbus for Big Jim Rhodes. Finally!

—Good Times of
Columbus, Ohio



Surgeon General C. Everett Koop.



Rep. Henry Waxman.

Koop Left On The Defensive

Every way U.S. Surgeon General C. Everett Koop turns these days, he finds himself on the defensive. Koop had an exhausting week recently talking about AIDS in Washington and Cambridge, Massachusetts.

In Washington, Koop joined forces with Rep. Henry Waxman (D-CA) in urging the nation's television networks to run condom advertisements. When this happened, Koop and Waxman were roundly criticized by Southern California's resident grump, Rep. William Dannemeyer (R-CA) and conservative sex educator Teresa Crenshaw.

Koop and Waxman were speaking at a hearing of the House Subcommittee on Health and the Environment. Koop told the hearing that while condoms are not foolproof, they still offer much better protection than sexual practices performed minus the condom.

"Except for mutually faithful monogamous relationships with an uninfected partner," said Koop, "the use of a condom is the best method of reducing or preventing HIV infection known at this time for those who, for one reason or another, will not practice monogamy."

After Capital Cities, ABC, Inc. vice president Alfred R. Schneider defended ABC's policy of not running condom ads because of its "diverse, mainstream audience," Waxman accused the networks of being "hypocritically priggish."

Waxman said the networks run entertainment shows each year that portray "thousands" of sexual encounters. Waxman added that while this is going on, the networks refuse to run con-

dom ads which would give "life-saving information about safe sex."

This was too much for Dannemeyer. The crusty conservative said that Koop, Waxman and others are operating under a "delusion" if they think condoms will reduce the AIDS epidemic.

Instead of promoting ads for rubbers, Dannemeyer said that Congress and the states should be promoting "traditional moral values" such as sexual abstinence and heterosexuality.

In Cambridge, Koop was linked with his boss, Pres. Ronald Reagan, for a volley of criticism from the Boston Globe's Loretta McLaughlin. The journalist criticized the Reagan Administration's handling of the crisis, saying that "if the AIDS had first hit the U.S. Olympic Team (instead of gay men), there would have been a great marshalling of medical forces and money." Instead, she charged, there has been an almost unbroken silence from Reagan and efforts to limit funding and research.

As far as Koop was concerned, McLaughlin acknowledged Koop's role in raising AIDS issues, but she criticized Koop for not pushing for an exact figure of money needed to fight the epidemic.

Koop defended his role in fighting AIDS as well as the Reagan Administration, but he admitted that he has limited impact on decisions concerning the scope of the AIDS fight by the White House.

—The Washington Blade and
The Gay Community News of Boston

Flash! Ed Meese Reads 'Pornography,' And He Likes It!

WASHINGTON — And now it is time to play another game of "Double Standard." And here's your host: Ed Meese.

Attorney General Edwin Meese made a startling revelation the other day. Meese admitted the other day that he sat down and took a good long look at both

Playboy and Penthouse Magazines. And, the crusader for the nation's morals said that he didn't find either magazine obscene. This pronouncement came only seven months after Meese first tried to discourage distributors from selling the magazines.

Meese, however, has yet to say the same thing about lesbian and gay magazines. What's the delay, Ed?

—The Weekly News
of Miami

3 Firefighters Arraigned In Beantown Bashing

BOSTON — Three Boston firefighters accused of beating up a gay man and a lesbian were arraigned on assault and battery charges on Feb. 18.

According to Jeff, a gay man who is pressing charges, he and two friends were attacked in the Fenway area on Nov. 2. One of his two friends was a lesbian. The next day, Jeff said he and his friends were walking past a fire station on Boylston St. when they recognized two of the three attackers in full firefighting uniform.

The firefighters have also filed charges against Jeff and his two friends, charging assault and battery. "Their position is that they didn't say any anti-gay things (and) that nothing really major happened. (The firefighters) are trying to convey (that) everyone got roughed up and why don't we drop the whole thing," according to Katherine Triantafillou, the attorney for Jeff and his friends.

—The Gay Community News
of Boston

Positive Tests Require Reports In Arizona

PHOENIX — An Arizona health official said last week that doctors and clinics must report names of patients who test positive for the AIDS virus. Dr. Glyn Caldwell, a Dept. of Health Services assistant director, said that the names and test results will be kept confidential, but he added that officials will attempt to reach some patients if there is no indication they have received education and counseling about AIDS.

According to Caldwell, sexual partners will not be informed.

Caldwell said that the new directive went into effect on Jan. 28. On that date, Secretary of State Rose Mofford signed the direc-

tive after it had been approved by a regulatory review panel and the attorney general's office. Caldwell said the new directive is necessary to help judge the scope of AIDS.

—The Associated Press

Aussies Open Gates For Lovers

CANBERRA, Australia — Australia passed a new policy which states that non-Australian gays and lesbians may achieve permanent Australian residency if they can prove that they have lived with their Australian partner for at least four years.

A temporary resident visa will be available for couples while they attempt to establish the four-year period.

—The GLC Voice
of Minneapolis

New Education For Norwegians

OSLO — The Norwegian government is attempting to educate gay and bisexual men about the dangers of AIDS by placing ads in the mainstream newspapers. The government felt the need for this action because the majority of gay and bi Norwegians are in the closet. The ads will use extremely explicit language and photography.

—Outrage

Eurogay Rolls Off The Presses

HOLBAEK, Denmark — The huge success of the 1986 edition of Eurogay has prompted the publisher, COQ International, to announce that the 1987 edition will be rolling off the presses before this month is over. The pocket-sized gay guide to Europe and North Africa is in Danish, English and German and may be obtained from Eden Cross Publishers, Postbus 12731, NL 1100 AS Amsterdam, The Netherlands.

—Outrage

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FAMILY

He Rescued Family From Nazis, Don't Call This Gay 'Anti-Family'

by Mary Richards

Don't tell Karli Bernstein that gay people are to blame for the breakdown of the family. Bernstein, a gay man who survived the horrors of World War II, stands as a repudiation to that idea. He rescued his parents from the Holocaust, struggling until they found a safe haven in Berkeley, California. Before that haven was reached, however, he and his parents would experience the loss of their home and their loved ones, and take flight throughout Europe, seeking a sanctuary that was repeatedly denied them.

It was Jan. 30, 1933 and the new president of the United States, Franklin Delano Roosevelt, was being sworn into office. On that same day across the Atlantic, in a Germany waiting to unleash its new-found power, Adolf Hitler had taken control of the government.

Karli remembers that day. "I will never forget the look on my parents' faces, even though I was very young," he says. "I came in from playing in the back yard after school and I have never since or before seen such horror-stricken faces in my life. I will never forget it. Their faces were almost distorted. They realized what this would mean in the future—that their lives were finished, there was no doubt about that."

When Karli's parents saw the end of their first thought was for their children. Their daughter had left earlier for the safety of England with her new husband, but their two young sons were now in danger. Karli and his brother were sent to spend the next three years in Holland.

The year before World War II began, he was reunited with his parents in France. He was of age for military service. Although an alien, in his youthful idealism Karli hoped to join the French army. Instead, the government separated his family, evacuating his parents to the Pyrenees mountains, and relocating him in a series of concentration camps.

It was in the second of these camps that he discovered the strong camaraderie which existed between gay men, like himself, who were incarcerated. "It was the gays," he reminisces, "who organized entertainment, from bridge parties to theater skits. It was the gays who kept the morale going by being cheerful, by being friendly to everyone. It was very interesting to see gays in action, which at that time was unorganized. It was simply the feeling of togetherness and wanting to make people feel better."

It was while he was in captivity that he met his first love, Rene, who would survive the war to be reunited with Karli in a friendship which has lasted since they first met.

As a refugee from Germany being held in a French concentration camp, Karli was considered an enemy alien. The German army was on the march toward Paris, and in those last days before the occupation, the French had no interest in distinguishing between prisoners who were German soldiers or Jewish Refugees. "The French would never give up Paris unless they were about to lose the war,"

he states. "At this point I was in a camp north of Paris, and the time came to do something—to either sit on my butt and get shot, or gassed in Dachau or Auschwitz."

"Twenty of us got together and went to the commander [of the French concentration camp]. We said he had two choices: to shoot us all in the back if he didn't open the front gate, or to open the gate and let us out. We realized that if the Nazis had gotten all of us Jews we would have been killed anyway—we knew that. So it was up to him to shoot us. We had nothing to lose. I was 18 then, and I wasn't about to give my life to Hitler."

The young Karli wasn't about to give the lives of his parents to fascism, either. It was after his escape, on a four-day, nonstop march south with hundreds of thousands of other refugees fleeing the German army from throughout Europe, that Karli came to a decision. "Somehow, somewhere during those four days I had decided that I wasn't only going to save my life, but if I could, I was going to save the lives of my parents. And that necessitated that I find them first. I had no idea where they were."

Arriving in Nice, part of the unoccupied zone, he connected with a retired teacher who had known his family. "The miracle that happened then," Karli says, "is that my parents had the same idea. They contacted her and that's how we found each other." His mother and father came down from the Pyrenees and were reunited with him a second time, as he remembers, in the "magnificent old French town of Albi."

Although in constant danger, they would not allow themselves to be parted again. Fate brought them new friends: two gay men who owned a *pension* and who would shelter them until they could find other accommodations. "They supported us for a year," Karli remembers. "They fed us and gave us money. They were very wonderful to us the whole time we were there, while we were helpless."

As events on the continent worsened, and the German juggernaut advanced, Karli's unsuccessful search for immigration papers for himself and his parents became more desperate. "At this point it didn't matter where we were going," he recalls, "the United States, Palestine, Ecuador, anywhere."

No longer could they delay on European soil. Word had reached his parents while they were in France that two members of his father's family had been picked up and had disappeared. Another



Karli Bernstein (left) stands next to his lover, Brian Shields, and their bird in front of Karli's Meissen porcelain collection. (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

tragedy followed: his father's sister, her husband and their four children had committed suicide rather than die a hideous death in the gas chambers of Buchenwald, their deportation destination.

Despite Karli's frenzied efforts to obtain visas from consulates of unoccupied countries, it seemed that wartime bureaucracy would triumph. It was then that his sister, who had moved to California, managed to get a cable through to the family: Cuba was issuing visas.

More nightmares of red tape and refusals were to follow, but Karli and his mother and father eventually found their way to Cuba. After a year and a half in that country, Karli says, "On April 4, 1943, with both my parents in tow, I arrived at a strange town called Berkeley, California."

The town they came to would become their home. It was here, in the Bay area, that Karli would work, and eventually become one of the foremost authorities on Meissen porcelain. Through the years, he would play a major role in organizing social services for the Jewish community, and become one of the first activists in the San Francisco gay liberation movement of the early 1960s. He now lives in Oakland with his lover of 23 years, Brian Shields.

Karli strongly objects to those, like the fundamentalists, who accuse the gay community of "carrying part of the responsibility for family breakup in this country. My parents fought fascism all their lives, befriended democracy all their lives. I came from a very loving household. I suppose I'm lucky—it could have been otherwise, but it wasn't. My own feeling is that because of my

background I was able to return this kind of love to other people—and to my parents."

Grief Support Group

Holy Trinity Community Church is pleased to announce a new support group to those who have lost a spouse through death. As the AIDS crisis grows, more and more requests have been received to offer this support.

The group meets each Friday night at 7:30 p.m. in a home of the leader. If you are interested, please contact the church office for further details: (408) 292-3071. The meetings are very informal and unstructured.

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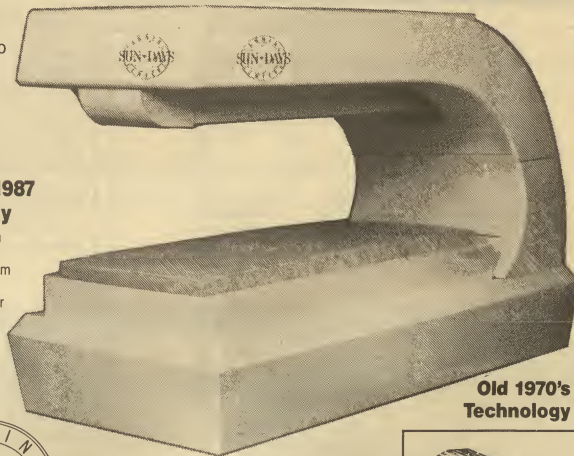
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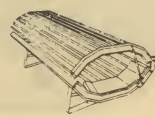
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The Golden Gate Business Association marked its 13th year with the installation of its new officers (above). In the back row, from left to right, are Richard Carlini (secretary), Gary Dill, John Boling (directors) and Dennis Kaump (treasurer). In the front row are directors Bob Rose and Katherine Krubs, Earthlyn Manuel (vice president), Rod Palmer (president) and Michael Cullen (vice president). Not present were directors Clint Hockenberry and Leroy Larson. At right, the GGBA gave a community service award to Shanti Project with former board members Bobby Reynolds and Dale Hansen accepting the award.

(Photo: S. Martin)



GCN Vows To Return To Airwaves

Cable Group Halts Production To Reorganize as Nonprofit

by Jon Sugar

After one year of informing, enlightening, entertaining, and providing much needed gay programming, John Canalli and the Gay Cable Network crew are taking a break. On a shoestring budget and with the help of many hard working community members, GCN brought a weekly gay television show to the public.

The show received a Certificate of Honor from the Board of Supervisors, critical acclaim, and ultimately bankruptcy. Says Canalli, "We aren't through yet. The new approach for GCN is to be a nonprofit corporation. I hope the community will support GCN as a nonprofit organization. It is obvious we cannot allow the gay business community to determine what advances will be made

in the lesbian and gay movement."

Apparently relieved now that GCN is off the air, and with no grueling weekly schedule to keep, Canalli now has time to reflect. "We just ran out of money. We lasted this long only because my mother gave me \$2,000. I couldn't say no, but why is my mother supporting a gay cable

TV show? We had our TV fundraiser which was successful in amassing another \$1,500."

Gay viewers were confused when they tuned into GCN last week only to find a phone-in shopping show on Tuesday night at 9 p.m., GCN's usual time slot. "Viacom was extremely supportive during our one year relationship, but the bills have to be paid. What GCN needs now is vocal and financial support from the community. We need coverage of things like the Cable Car Awards, Gay Games, Gay Day Parade, the Lesbian and Gay Film and Video Festival, Gay Band activities, on the air, not to mention our response to the sodomy court decision, AIDS-related setbacks and breakthroughs, and so much more," said Canalli.

People interested in the future of GCN can contact John Canalli at 584 Castro St., #104, San Francisco, CA 94114. "People applying for a position on the nonprofit board for GCN will need an understanding of networking, community involvement, hard work, and most of all, consistency," he commented. ●

Gay Love in the 19th Century

Toronto professor Michael Lynch will discuss his forthcoming book *The Age of Adhesiveness: Male-Male Intimacy in New York City, 1830-1880* at the March general meeting of the San Francisco Bay Area Gay and Lesbian Historical Society, Thursday evening, Mar. 5, at 7:30 p.m. The meeting will be held at the Women's Building, 3543 18th St., San Francisco. General admission will be \$5; Gay Historical Society members admitted free. Refreshments will be served.

Lynch's study will be the first thorough "gay history" of New

York City in the middle decades of the 19th century. This is a particularly important period because it immediately precedes the turn-of-the-century, when the legal definition of sodomy was broadened, same-sex eroticism was medicalized, and other social controls were imposed. By examining the 19th century press, pulp fiction, and pertinent legal records, Lynch has uncovered a wealth of fascinating material, and sheds new light on the homosexual experience.

Lynch is an associate professor of English at the University of Toronto. He is the editor of the

Gay Studies Newsletter, and has written for *The Body Politic*, *Christopher Street*, *Bay Windows*, and *Victorian Studies*. He was the chair of the AIDS Committee of Toronto, and has helped organize two major international gay history conferences.



The San Francisco Bay Area Gay and Lesbian Historical Society is a nonprofit, community-based, educational organization and archives which regularly sponsors gay and lesbian history programming. ●

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'To everyone at the Cat, Sol was 'Poppa.'
—Jose Sarria
talking about Black Cat owner
Sol Stoumen (above).

SOL STOUMEN

He Took The Queens to Court And Pioneered Gay Rights

by Will Snyder

"Sol was a firm believer in keeping the prices for drinks down. When he bought The Cat, beer was a quarter and mixed drinks 50 cents. When the Cat closed down 16 years later, beer was 50 cents and mixed drinks a dime more."

Sol was Sol Stoumen, The Cat was The Black Cat, a landmark gay bar that existed when "gay" was still a code word. The historical quote about the drink prices comes from Jose Sarria, the Widow Norton, Empress de San Francisco I.

Jose looked up and smiled wistfully when thinking of his friend Sol Stoumen, who owned The Black Cat from 1947-1963. Perhaps nobody in the gay community knew Stoumen — who died of lung cancer on Feb. 10 — better than Jose. The drink price story was only one example of the way Stoumen, a straight man, cared about his beloved gay customers.

What Jose remembers most about Stoumen was that he was a fighter for human rights. Long before Stonewall, long before Castro Street, Sol Stoumen was in the courts with the queens.

Back in the pre-Castro days of the 1940s and 1950s, the state Alcoholic Beverage Control Board (ABC) used to harass gay customers as well as bars. There was a mean law on the books which said it was illegal to serve drinks in bars to homosexuals.

It would be very easy for people to assume that Stoumen looked at the patrons of his establishment, knew how his bread was buttered, and headed for the courts. But Sarria said that Stoumen was not a commercial person.

"He would always stand behind issues regardless of whether they were straight, crooked or bent," said the Widow Norton. "He had outstanding principles. He would fight for or against an issue because the issue was either right or wrong."

When Stoumen decided to take the ABC to court, he hired a prominent attorney named Morris Leventhal, whom Sarria called "the Clarence Darrow of San Francisco." Leventhal's eloquence and logic taught some early ABC's of human rights to the ABC.

"Back in those days when we went to court," said Sarria, "Sol would make sure we dressed up the best we could. We had to dust off our only white shirt, press our only tie and clean up our graduation suit and get into it, whether we fit or not."

"Well, we got into court," added Jose, "and Leventhal went to work. He said, 'Your honor, I understand this case is about whether homosexuals can be served in a bar, is that correct?' The judge said it was. Then Leventhal said, 'Let's just assume for a moment that your honor is a bartender and you are serving drinks. Would your honor be able to find homosexuals in here if this courtroom were a bar?'"

"The judge looked around the courtroom at all these nelly queens dressed up in suits and said, 'I cannot tell who is a homosexual here. They all look like All-American boys to me.' With that, the case was thrown out of court." He'd won the right for gay bars to exist.

That Stoumen stood up for human rights meant that he carried on the non-conformist tradition of the Black Cat. Before the Cat went gay, it was considered one of the prime "Bohemian" bars in America. Writers such as William Saroyan and John Steinbeck drank there before there were any Human Comedies or Grapes of Wrath.

When Stoumen's Cat was purring the loudest, he introduced a new kind of culture to San Francisco: opera Jose Sarria-style. With Jimmy McGinniss at the piano, a Sunday opera with Jose was different from anything Milton Cross could have ever imagined. It was Madame Butterfly done with a comic twist, a

campy, gay comic twist. The music remained familiar, but the lyrics...

One lyric, for example, went like this: "Just when you think you've found a man, you find him cruising the Emporium can."

A makeshift stage was made of plywood over some of the bar's tables. Then Jose climbed on stage and performed.

"Sol suggested to Jimmy McGinniss and me that we should fill in 'the weak spot after the Sunday Brunch,'" related Jose. "And that's how our operas were born. But you know people

are supposed to cry at the operas. It was different at our operas. People were laughing hysterically."

But while the merriment never seemed to end on Sundays at The Cat, the dogs of the ABC were always around the corner from the North Beach bar. Vaguely staged sex entrapments continued from time to time as well as did the court cases. In 1963, the ABC cited a technicality, still unclear to this day, and took away Stoumen's liquor license.

"The ABC told Sol that he could continue to fight in the

courts if he wished," said Jose, "but he would have to surrender his liquor license."

The ABC promised to collect the license after Halloween that year, but it surprised Stoumen by demanding the license on Oct. 30. "Sol was extremely angry about this," said Sarria. "He said, 'Well, they took away our liquor license, but we still have a restaurant license, so we'll serve soft drinks.' So, we went out on Halloween night and sold \$800 worth of soft drinks and had a wonderful time."

That Halloween may have been the last totally festive night for the Cat, however. Restaurant business dwindled so badly that Stoumen decided to close down the Black Cat and devote his time to other business interests.

Still, his courage in battling City Hall for 16 years lives on today in the memories of some of those gay rights pioneers from decades past. Jose Sarria remembers a straight Jewish family man, educated at Temple University in Philadelphia. He remembers a loving man who paid his employees double the minimum wage, who gave Thanksgiving turkeys to all his employees, as well as his friends at the Police Dept. (despite the court battles) and even to the garbage collectors. And finally, Jose remembers the Sol Stoumen who would listen to the stories of love that his patrons would relate to him. Sometimes, according to Jose, straight Sol would give his gay customers tips on which potential luscious young man should be avoided — or chased after.

"It didn't matter whether a guy was straight or a queen," said Jose. "Sol was typical of what bartenders used to be like."

"To everyone at the Cat," said Jose Sarria, "Sol was 'Poppa.'"

Stoumen, 75, is survived by five children and 14 grandchildren. He is also survived by a grateful lesbian and gay community.



The Black Cat: where hilarious opera reigned supreme.



Jose on the Black Cat stage.

Is Pope Afraid to Meet S.F. Critics?

Last Tour Stop Now Detroit Where No Protests Planned

by Charles Linebarger

A sudden shift in Pope John Paul's itinerary has given rise to charges that the pope wants to conclude his upcoming American trip with a triumph in Detroit out of fear of large-scale protests in San Francisco. Now, instead of ending his tour in the Bay Area, he will visit the large Polish, Catholic community in Michigan.

A warm reception is assured the church leader in Detroit with its Polish population of over 800,000. San Francisco, by contrast, with over 100,000 gays and lesbians and others opposed to the papal visit, is less likely to give the pontiff a favorable reception.

John Wahl, who has been involved in coordinating the gay and lesbian response to the pontifical trip to San Francisco in September, talked to the Bay Area Reporter about the change in John Paul's itinerary.

"I definitely think the pope has changed his itinerary based on a concern that we are going to have the kind of free and truthful and angry response to the Cardinal Ratzinger message (the Vatican document condemning homosexuality last October) the likes of which the Vatican has never seen," said Wahl.

"I think they are finally learning," continued Wahl, "that we are not just a flash in the pan. We are not just some irritable people who are going to go away soon. We are hundreds of thousands of

people who either grew up in the Bay Area or moved here because of the freedom that exists here for gay and lesbian people. And we will not sit quietly for even one minute when a religious, or political, figure comes to San Francisco to denounce us."

The pope's visit to the city is being coordinated by Mary Burns of the San Francisco Archdiocese. Burns said the change in the papal itinerary had been in the works for over a month.

"Changed because of protests?" said Burns, "Oh no, not at all. When he came to America in 1979 he missed Detroit, and as soon as the Polish community there learned that he was coming to America again they began lobbying to have him visit Detroit."

The San Francisco Examiner reported Feb. 19, that "... church officials fear protests could turn into boisterous displays that would inflame papal loyalists. If the pope is maligned, they say, loyalists could be provoked into modern-day crusading to defend their religious leader."



S.F. Archdiocese spokesperson Miles Riley (right, with Archbishop John Quinn, standing, and the Vatican's Cardinal Cassaroli, sitting) says the Pope is also stopping in Detroit to touch base with Motown's huge Polish-American population. (Photo: Rink)

"Yes, that sounded inflammatory," said Father Miles Riley, Archdiocese spokesman. But he didn't disavow the sentiment.

Riley intimated that he was worried that some in the Catholic community will see gay and lesbian protests of the pope's visit, even dignified and civil protests, as an opportunity to bash gays. "They might see it as a slur on their mothers and their nationality," said Riley.

The gay community is still smarting from a Vatican document issued last October, as the community fought off the La-

Rouche Initiative, condemning homosexuality as "disordered" and "an intrinsic evil." Wahl said he hopes to turn gay outrage over the papal visit into two massive demonstrations while the pope is in town.

The gay Papal Visit Task Force is also planning to conduct an investigation, said Wahl, into church-sponsored oppression of gays and hold an alternative religious service. The group also plans a prayer vigil through the night across the street from Archbishop John Quinn's house the night the pope stays there. ●

Mace Certification

The UCSF Police Department's Personal Safety program is sponsoring Tear Gas Certification training classes on Thursday, Mar. 5 and Wednesday, Mar. 18 from 6-9 p.m. at the Laguna Honda School, 1350 7th Avenue.

The class includes Department of Justice approved Tear Gas Certification training, lifetime license to carry and use tear gas, psychological techniques for personal, protection and assault prevention, personal power through resister behavior patterns, the law of self-defense, know your rights, and simple practical physical defense techniques.

To be eligible to attend the class, you must be over 18, not a convicted felon, not addicted to drugs, and never convicted of an assault or the misuse of tear gas. You can call the office for the official form.

Also, you must bring proof of identification such as a California driver's license. Class size is limited. Pre-registration is required seven days prior to the start of the class. To register, call 476-5683. ●

Bogus Solicitors

A group called the American Church Army is collecting funds door-to-door in the Mission and Castro districts that they claim go to support Larkin Street Youth Center. Officials of Larkin Street have received none of these funds. If you have donated money to or been solicited for donations by the American Church Army, call Greg Day at Larkin Street Youth Center, 673-0915. ●

Federal Rights Bill Heads for Hearings

Cranston Introduces Senate Version; House Bill Gets 50 Sponsors

With a record 50 members of the U.S. House of Representatives and six members of the U.S. Senate co-sponsoring the Gay and Lesbian Civil Rights Bill this year, the climate appears to be favorable for actual committee hearings on the bills during the 100th Congress.

That is the goal of the Human Rights Campaign Fund, the national political action and education committee of the gay and lesbian community, which has made passage of the civil rights bill a major focus of its political activities for the past six years.

The House bill was introduced Jan. 21 as H.R. 709 by Rep. Ted Weiss (D-NY). The Senate's version of the bill, S. 464, was introduced Feb. 4 by Alan Cranston (D-CA). Joining Cranston as original co-sponsors were Sen. Kennedy (D-MA), Kerry (D-MA), Moynihan (D-NY), Weicker (R-CT) and Inouye (D-HI).

"We've worked long and hard with Rep. Ted Weiss (D-NY) and Sen. Cranston to get this many co-sponsors," said Vic Basile, executive director of the Campaign Fund. "We intend to work equally hard to see that hearings are scheduled in the House in the near future."

Hearings would afford supporters and opponents an opportunity to go on record with their positions on the legislation. For the gay and lesbian community, this means a very high-profile forum in which to present evi-



Rep. Ted Weiss (Photo: R. Pruzan)

dence and arguments on behalf of their need for civil rights protection. For their opponents, it necessitates bringing bias and prejudice out of the closet and putting them on record.

Members of the House may be reached by writing them (with "The Honorable," preceding their name) at the U.S. House of Representatives, Washington, D.C. 20515. Members of the Senate may be reached by writing them (with "The Honorable" preceding their name) at the U.S. Senate, Washington, D.C. 20510. ●

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Britt

(Continued from page 1)

Said the staffer, "My boss is endorsing Pelosi but when I go into the voting booth and close the curtain I'm voting for Harry."

MILD ABOUT HARRY

Said another local political staffer, whose boss is endorsing Britt, "Harry has to get 35,000 votes out of the gay community if he is going to win this thing." That means at least half the lesbian and gay voters must show up on April 7 and vote for Britt if Britt is to win.

"Right now they are just mild about Harry. Somehow we have to make them wild about Harry," the staffer said.

It will be a real chore and there is just six weeks to do it. It is hard to be excited about Harry Britt. Softspoken, deferential, often painfully shy, Britt is the anti-thesis to the typical politician.

He feels uncomfortable at public events and asking people for money or support makes him pale. Case in point: Last week Britt was told to ask entertainer and long-time gay rights supporter Sharon McNight to do a campaign benefit. McNight was already primed to say yes.

Britt approached McNight but apparently could not bear to pop the question. McNight will do the benefit anyway.

Because Harry Britt is so loathe to promote himself — he even feels uncomfortable having his picture taken — there is a perception that he is inactive and ineffective.

Those who have worked with him and observed his seven years as supervisor, however, say otherwise.

NO ON 64

"The perception that he has not been active is an incorrect one," says professional City Hall watcher Bruce Pettit. Pettit, the gay political journalist who publishes the biweekly Pettit Report, is a former political columnist for the Examiner. He observes city government daily.

"Harry Britt has been, without a doubt, the leader of the tenants' rights and affordable housing movement in San Francisco," Pettit said.

"Harry has twice carried the rent control ordinance, and he has been the force behind the effort for vacancy control. With (Sup. John) Molinari, he has been in the forefront in getting the most city resources for AIDS that are possible," Pettit said.

Britt has demonstrated shrewd political judgment and great effectiveness in building support and raising money for causes. But until now, he has seemed unable to promote himself.

One example: the statewide No on 64 campaign. Few people in the gay community know what role Harry Britt played in the campaign — the greatest victory for gay rights since the AIDS epidemic began.

Harry Britt was the co-chair of No on 64.

"He flew up and down the state for strategy sessions and fundraisers on the No on 64 campaign," said Dennis Collins, an aide to Molinari. "He ignited a lot of excitement with his speeches and his judgment was crucial to the whole campaign."

"He was very much a hands-on person in the campaign though he was not publicity-seeking in doing so," said Collins. "He showed up at the weekly staff meetings and he personally oversaw the press effort."

The media strategy of No on 64 was important and successful. Every major newspaper in California opposed the LaRouche initiative. When the votes were in, even the strongest opponents of Prop. 64 were shocked at the margin of the victory: 71-29 percent.

'HE'S THE HEART'

Britt seems shocked by public perceptions that he is ineffective or unconcerned. "Let me tell you what I did yesterday," he said a few weeks ago. "My staff and I spent much of the day trying to untangle the benefits for a guy with AIDS who was about to be put out on the street. We got it figured out. But I'm not about to put out a press release on something like that."

"Because of who we are and what we stand for," Britt said, "my office has become more of a social service agency than a political office. People with AIDS, the homeless, tenants who are being unfairly evicted — when they don't get helped anywhere else, they call my office. Wendy Nelder doesn't have that challenge."

"I can't say no to these people. I can't send them anywhere else. They've already been everywhere else," Britt said. But he acknowledged, "At times it is just overwhelming."

Britt's role on the Board of Supervisors is not lost on his colleagues. Board Pres. Nancy Walker has endorsed Britt, as have Sups. Molinari, Hsieh, and Hongisto.



But Britt knows he has to reach the average gay voter, too. Two weeks ago, Britt was sipping a beer at the Pilsner Inn, something undreamed-of until now. While men in denim shot pool, Harry Britt sat at the bar in his charcoal grey, pin-striped suit.

The gay community appeared ready to take Britt to heart. Saturday night, Britt appeared at the Coronation of the gay "royal court". The energetic drag set could be important in galvanizing support among everyday gay voters for Britt.

Britt received a warm round of applause among a crowd that had seldom seen him in public.

EMPOWER OUR PEOPLE

Britt will have to continue to show up at such events, and must overcome his reluctance to promote himself, if he is to build his momentum. He will have to shake hands, smile for the cameras, and work the streets as he never has in his public life.

In short, Harry Britt will have to become a real politician at the most basic level for the first time in his career.

At the deeper level of leadership, Britt appears to recognize what his campaign means—and that the stakes are big for himself and the gay movement.

In announcing his candidacy at the Alice Club on Feb. 10, Britt struck that theme. His 12-minute speech was interrupted six times by applause.

'Harry Britt is the compassion of the Board. He is our heart and our conscience.'

—Board of Supervisors
President Nancy Walker

Said Walker, "Harry Britt is the compassion of the Board. He is our heart and our conscience."

But that image of Harry Britt will matter little unless he can convey it to the voters. Before April 7, he must not only unite the gay community but ignite it.

At the same time, Britt must garner firm support from the tenants and other progressive political groups whose causes he has championed in the past seven years.

LINING UP

First, Britt must carry his own home base, the gay community. He has nailed down institutional support already. Last week, the Alice B. Toklas Club—which has often been at odds with Britt—endorsed him by 92 percent out of a vote of 109 club members.

"If anybody had political problems with Harry, it was Alice," said Pettit. "I sense that gay people are setting aside whatever differences they have had in the past for this very historic campaign."

So, too, are the community's heavyweights—from say Republicans to say progressives—lining up behind Britt. It is anticipated that all of the city's appointive gay commissioners will have endorsed Britt by next week, even though the politician who appointed them—Mayor Feinstein—has endorsed Britt's rival Pelosi.

"I know my role is a difficult one. I know that my candidacy will not mean anything at all unless it is a united statement by lesbians and gay men—that we are ready to do more, that we are ready to be more, that we are ready for the world to see more of our anger and more of our effectiveness than it has ever seen before," Britt said.

"In the few weeks until April 7, the United States of America is going to be looking to see whether San Francisco is ready, yet, to allow a gay person to be a spokesperson for all of the important concerns this city stands for," Britt said. "Your job and my job is to empower our people."

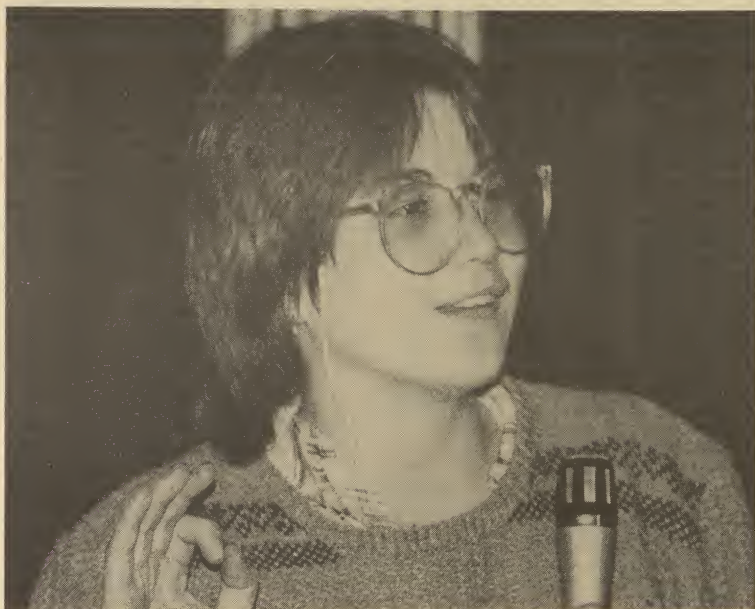
Britt Benefit at Eagle

Sup. John Molinari will host a special beer bust at the S.F. Eagle on Friday, Feb. 27, from 8 pm to midnight to benefit Harry Britt's campaign for Congress.

Special guests include the Blazing Redheads and Ms. Kitty and the Cycle Souls. Admission is \$10.

Party for Britt

You are invited to a party to support Sup. Harry Britt, candidate for congress, on Friday, Feb. 27, at Sue Bierman's home, 1529 Shrader Street, near 17th Street, 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. Hors d'oeuvres, no-host bar. Donor's option: \$20, \$35, \$50 or more.



Gay domestic violence is "an invisible problem," says CUAV's Diana Christensen. (Photo: Rink)

Gay Domestic Violence Called 'Invisible Problem'

by Gregory Douthwaite

Local anti-violence groups are starting two new programs dealing with domestic violence among gay men, which they say is a significant, hidden problem.

"It's an invisible problem," said Diana Christensen, director of Community United Against Violence (CUAV). "I don't think we talk about it much. But I tend to think it is much more of a problem than we know."

CUAV received a \$33,000 state grant this month to begin a counseling and outreach program for gay men who are assaulted or threatened by their lover, ex-lover, or roommate.

The program is "somewhat experimental," said Christensen. "Last year CUAV received 46 calls from battered men which were handled with other case-work. We haven't officially dealt with domestic violence before. We hope to find out how serious the problem is, and what kind of services are needed."

A shelter for battered men is not part of the current program, Christensen said. "Shelters are very expensive to operate. In order to justify it, we need to know a lot about the subject. If we find the need for a shelter, we'll work on that."

The program will include a part-time, licensed therapist to conduct individual and group counseling, and a full-time services coordinator to do outreach and supervise volunteers. At least 20 men per month are expected to sign up for counseling once the service is publicized, Christensen said.

Another gay domestic violence program began last summer at Men Overcoming Violence (MOVE). The program is advertised as the nation's first counseling group for gay and bisexual men who batter. "MOVE responds to the needs of San Francisco," the literature states.

So far, MOVE has gotten fewer calls about gay domestic violence than CUAV, but the programs are operated cooperatively. "As CUAV's program for victims continues to strengthen the community to confront aggressive behavior, I think we'll see an increase here," said MOVE counselor Jim Shattuck.

MOVE also runs counseling groups for heterosexual men who batter women, and these groups are better attended. Gays are still embarrassed to admit that domestic violence is a problem, Shattuck said. "There's the same

kind of denial as there was 10 years ago in heterosexual society," he said.

People will tell the victim, "Quit pissing him off," as if the victim deserved to be beaten for provoking the partner, Shattuck said. Or they will say, "You'd leave if it were that bad," as if the victim had that simple choice, he said.

Men may hesitate to admit they are victims because of society's stereotypes about men. According to Randy Schell, a counselor at CUAV, "Men in relationships have the feeling that battering between two men is something that's expected. When you resolve something, you punch him in the face."

Police often fail to acknowledge gay domestic violence, Schell said. Domestic violence is a crime in the state of California, and San Francisco police have specific orders that abuse in gay relationships is domestic violence.

But police often write off gay domestic violence as "mutual combat," even if one man is the obvious victim, Schell said. This means gay men are seldom referred by the courts to counseling programs such as MOVE, which serves as a diversion program for men convicted of battering their partners who wish to avoid a jail sentence.

CUAV's domestic violence program does not officially begin until next month, but the group has provided services for victims for years. "I've seen everything," said Schell.

It's Time We Speak
for Ourselves.
Vote for Britt, April 7.

The worst case last year was a dispute between two former lovers, he said. One spotted the other walking down Castro St., and they got into an argument "about everything." In the parking lot behind All-American Boy, one man pulled out a knife and stabbed the other one in the back.

'Men in relationships have the feeling that battering between two men is something that's expected. When you resolve something you punch him in the face.'

— CUAV's Randy Schell

There is no particular subject that fights start over, Schell said. However, he added, alcohol and/or drugs are almost invariably consumed prior to the assault.

One fight last year started with a man drinking beer and arguing with an ex-roommate in the kitchen, Schell said. When the man's current roommate got out of bed and complained about the noise, the man threw a stove burner at him and hit him in the head.

In one fight, a speed freak was continually demanding money from his former lover with whom he was living rent-free. When the man refused to give him money one day, the speed freak knocked him down and kicked him in the legs and buttocks repeatedly.

Police were called and the speed freak was evicted.

There have been disputes where the victim had AIDS, and disputes where the offending party had AIDS. "It's a very sad situation," said Schell.

In one fight a man with AIDS was angry over having the disease and angry that his lover did not. The man threw glasses and dishes at his lover. One day he threw an ashtray at him, hitting him in the ankle, and then refused to take him to the hospital. The violence continued for a month. The victim thought he was going crazy, and finally decided to move to another city.

Two men who had tried to resolve their problems in couples' counseling got into a fight when one man finally told the other he wanted to end the relationship. His boyfriend's response was to hit him in the face. The man called the police, and his boyfriend fled. Police came, but said they could not take the report because the suspect was not there. The next day, CUAV called the police, and they agreed to meet with the victim and take his report.

One man said his lover had been refusing physical contact for days before the assault. He said he asked his lover what was bothering him, but he wouldn't say. One night, his lover came home drunk. He told the man "Shut up, shut up, I don't want to hear you." He pulled him out of bed and ground his face into the carpet.

It is a myth that sadomasochism is involved in gay domestic violence, Schell said. "I have not seen any cases that are the result of a sexual act that got out of hand," he said.

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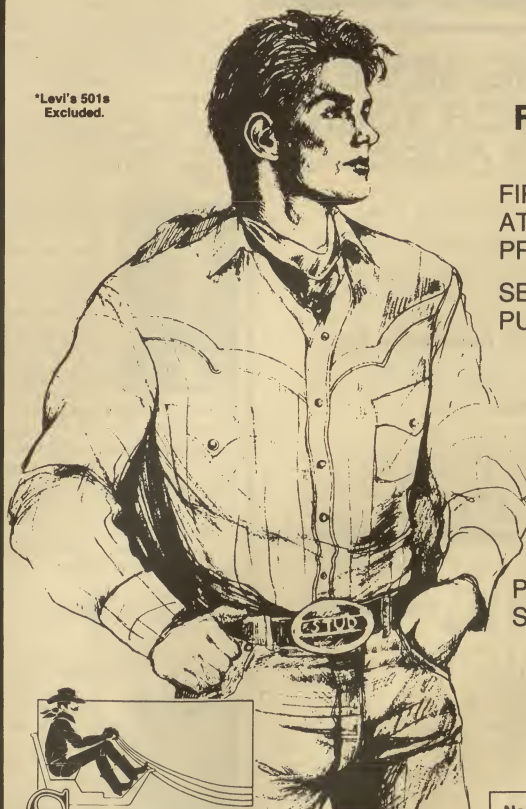
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DEATHS

Robert A. Chinen

11/10/51 - 2/19/87

At 6:30 a.m. on Feb. 19, Bob Chinen peacefully and painlessly died with his sister Rosemary and his lover of 15 years, Nello Carlini at his side. His remains will be interred in the family plot in Oahu cemetery in Honolulu.



Bob was very active in the gay community, having been chief Financial officer for Golden Gate Performing Arts in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Bob was a tax accountant at Bank of America for seven years.

Memorial services will be held at Comisky Roche Funeral Home, 16th and Dolores Streets, under the direction of Tom Simpson Funeral Counselors on March 6, at 8 p.m.

Should Bob's friends so desire, contributions may be made in his name to Hospice of San Francisco, 225 30th Street, San Francisco, CA 94131.

"Goodnight, sweet prince. May flights of angels sing thee to thy rest."

Ronald K. Stake

4/15/1949 - 2/20/1987

My dearest friend and life-long companion, Ronald Stake, passed on Feb. 20, another victim of AIDS.

Ron was a brave warrior until the very end and died peacefully at home with myself, Patrick Leary, his wonderful friends, Elizabeth and Malcolm and Sport.



Ron was loved and supported by his many friends, especially his mother Janyce Stake of Florida. Ron will be sorely missed and long remembered as a loving human being who never lost his wonderful sense

of humor.

We will always love you, Ronnie, and I'll always be your Petunia Puss. So long, my love.

Donations preferred to AmFAR (AIDS Research), 8601 Wilshire Blvd., Mezzanine, Los Angeles, CA 90021.

Neal Lo Monaco

Neal Lo Monaco, a longtime Bay Area resident and principal cellist with the Sacramento Symphony, died Thursday in Sacramento of cryptococcus, an AIDS-related disease.

Mr. Lo Monaco, 41, was born and raised in New York City, where he made his debut as a cellist in a 1977 recital under the auspices of the Metropolitan Museum of Art.



He was twice the recipient of the Martha Baird Rockefeller Fund Grant, which sponsored solo recitals at New York's Alice Tully Hall and Kaufmann Concert Hall. He was selected to perform a solo recital at

Carnegie Recital Hall for its Emerging Artists series.

Mr. Lo Monaco is survived by his father and mother, Salvatore and Bessie Lo Monaco; his sister, Arlene Kramer, and two nephews, Larry and Ira Kramer, all of New Jersey, and his lover of eight years, Jeff Boudou.

The family requests that contributions be made to the Hand-to-Hand program in Sacramento.

Dennis M. Mitchell

1925 - 1987

Born in Wyoming, Dennis passed away peacefully as he lived on Tuesday, Feb. 10.



Following his service with the Navy, Dennis M. Mitchell moved to the Bay Area, making his home first in Marin County and then San Francisco. His organization and activity in environmental preservation issues

helped save large portions of the forests and woodlands of Marin County.

During the months of his illness, Dennis was supported and cared for by Allen Murphy (with whom he had, for many years, shared an unconditional love).

He will be missed by many.

James Patrick Kinée

James Patrick Kinée died early morning Feb. 21 of Non-Viral Hepatitis. Patrick recently moved to



San Francisco from Philadelphia with his lover Rich Lucas. Other survivors are sister Barbara, ex-lover Joe, and best friends Rosie, Robert, Richard, Lois, Debbie and Boo.

Matt Harmon

10/12/48 - 2/13/87

To say that Matt died (at home, Feb. 13, of AIDS) will always sound like a paradox. For those of us remembering Matt, his Wilde-style epigrams, his observations astute as Proust, his ability to make everything with which he came into contact "fabulous" whether by enthusiasm,

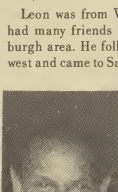


exaggeration, or irony, his creative imagination and glad empathy revealing in even the ordinarily pathetic and the extraordinarily noble (or the ordinarily noble and the extraordinarily pathetic for that matter), his sense of humor, his sense of drama, in short the whole world that Matt created for us, surrounds us like a permeating idol of prospect and love for our unending adoration, and for those towards whom we may reflect this indelible likeness.

Clarence Leon Archibald

June 10, 1949 - Feb. 15, 1987

Leon died at Sequoia Hospital in Redwood City after a 10½-month bout with AIDS. He was surrounded by his sister Becky, lover Gary, and friends Joe and Dwayne.



Leon was from Washington, PA and had many friends here from the Pittsburgh area. He followed the call of the west and came to San Francisco in 1981.

Leon was a nurse and worked in many Bay Area hospitals. He moved to Menlo Park two and a half years ago to live with his lover. They led an active life, enjoying theatre, sports events, opera, and traveling

throughout the west. At home he was surrounded by a prolific garden, cats, dogs, chickens, a turtle, and indoor and outdoor fish.

Leon faced his illness with a quiet dignity. His friends Joe, Doug, Dwayne and Larry's calls and visits gave great strength. He was supported at home by his housemates Randy and Charles. He was given comfort and peace of mind by his family, workmates, and support group, Beacon of Hope.

He is survived by his mother, Amanda, sisters Becky, Dorothy, and Hazel, and his lover, Gary Graul. He was cremated and his ashes were returned to his Pittsburgh home. A memorial service was held Feb. 13 at the Belmont Neptune Society.

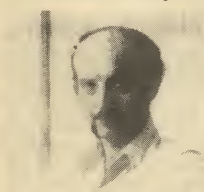
A party celebrating his life will be held at his home, 91 Loyola Ave., Menlo Park on March 1. For more information call 366-6014. Contributions may be made to ELLIPSE, 631 Woodside Rd., Redwood City, CA 94061.

(Continued on page 22)

Charles A. Thayer

Born August 21, 1941. Died February 16, 1987. Survived by mother Gertrude, father Fred, sister Debbie, brother Roger, roommate Ken Blaylock, executor and keeper of Chuck's will Marlys DeStefano, and a large varied cast of friends, associates, companions and lovers.

The cause of unexpected death at age 45 appears to be a heart attack. An autopsy has been performed by the coroner's office and the report will be issued in two to five weeks. Chuck's body will be cremated and the ashes scattered at sea. A remembrance was held Feb. 20 at 7 p.m. at First Unitarian Church.



Chuck was born and raised in Coopers Corner, Minnesota. He attended the Minneapolis School of Arts and graduated with the top honors. Moving to San Francisco in the early 1960s, Chuck became one of the first members in the Society for Individual Rights. His 'LOVE NEEDS CARE' poster has become a prized collector's item.

It was just one of the many outstanding works he created for the gay community in the early days of the Homosexual Revolution. He received many awards for his graphic work from the gay and overall community. Many persons considered him THE outstanding genius in graphic arts.

CTA Graphics, and Chuck Thayer Associates Ltd., Chuck's present business, has been turned over to his two associates, Cleve Gollat and Peter Linato, who will continue operating from 70 Sharon Street, on the ground floor of the fabulous 1890 Victorian that Chuck lived in, prized and decorated so lavishly with antiques. Some of the clients are the San Francisco Opera, BASS Ticket Agency, Bill Graham Organization, San Francisco Junior League, Regency and Hyatt Union Square Hotels, etc.

Charles expressed impatience with phoniness, mediocrity and stupidity which many times evolved into elaborate byzantine jokes that could infuriate some persons. He rejected false praise. His life demonstrated the strong survival potential of humanity, the tough hardness of being. My most vivid recollection of Chuck was being called and rushing to the emergency room at Mission General Hospital one dark morning. Chuck, I was told, had totaled his ninth car that had burst into flame after hitting a parked semi-trailer. When he woke up, he asked me what the hell he was doing in a hospital. I told him that he had been in a serious car accident and badly needed surgery. He logically replied, "I can't have been in an accident; I haven't even got in my car yet."

Charles Thayer will be sorely missed. He was a unique, very talented, gifted person who worked hard and long, and played harder and longer . . . and loved every minute of it.

W. E. Beardemphl

BAY AREA REPORTER GREATER BAY NEWS

Nez Nez

Nez: The Uncut Version

AMANUENSIS' PROPHYLACTIC

(A sort of "Bonapropism Nose" Nose!)

I guess it happens to every writer (?) some time. A deadline approaches and there's nothing to write about. I've gone to my bag of tricks, if you will, in the past, and "faked" a column; but now that satchel runneth empty!

I could mention about who's stepping out on whom, but that's not my style — besides, it would be edited. I could divulge some information about a certain bartender getting into heated fist-cuffs with a customer, but that would lead to much irritation. Besides, I don't know all the details. I could call attention to the several robberies at the same bar, but bad publicity doesn't help anyone. I could allude to the ABC's testing of liquor at a few bars, resulting in (I'm told) humungous fines — some for selling to minors — but the grapevine has already taken away most of the punch.

As fate would have it, my day was saved! The call went something like this: "Nez, they cut your column right in the middle. They left out some of the best parts." "Well," I answered, "it was a rather long column and I know space is a premium. At least you got to read the original before it went to print."

"It's not fair," was the response. "You're the only one from the East Bay. They should give you a whole page. Maybe you could rewrite the rest for your next column?"

(At this point, some clarification must be made. If the person(s) mentioned in the column like what is written, one paragraph is *never* enough. If what is written is read with disdain, one word is too much. What's a mother to do?)

So, with deference to those who by now are yawning or turning to the classified ads, allow me to conclude the saga of helping George and B.J. move on Valentine's Day.

If you even care to recall, I had to pack the bathroom, linen closet, junk closet, under the kitchen sink, and the refrigerator. That episode ended with, "Don't pack the spill!" And now, today's conclusion:

I thought that the six steps in the old apartment were bad. The new abode was three flights up, and no working elevator! George was among the last things to be moved that evening, and he with cast and crutches, inched up step by step on his fanny! We others trudged up and down the landings umpteen times to clear the vestibule of personal belongings — I have to admit, my hip joints were complaining too loudly, so I didn't quite do my share — Hell! The others are far younger than I!

(If this were TV or the movies — or even radio — there now

would be a drum roll, indicating the dramatic climax to this epic . . . an ending not only to placate the seven involved, but also to exasperate all those who have bothered to read this far — TRUST me, dear reader, it does not get any better!)

At 6:30 p.m. that day's activities were concluded. In the new place, the liquor box was the first to be unpacked. Plastic glasses were located, pizza arrived at the same time ice did from a nearby tavern. Aching bodies reclined with toddies and munchies. "Betty Rubble," "Fred, Jr.," Big Steve and Little Steve, "Mr. X," B.J., and I were mesmerized by our exhaustion. George was still in pain.

A prior commitment prevented my returning the following day to "finish up." Somehow that un-moved freezer, portable dishwasher, wall unit, and hundreds of odds and ends (still to be packed and hauled up three flights of stairs) seemed miles away — and they were, just as most of George and B.J.'s "friends" had been the previous day.

EPILOGUE: Most of the unpacking has been accomplished; the furniture is all in place; the rented storage locker is bursting at the seams; George can now maneuver down and up the stairs (to the bar, naturally) with some ease; "Lea" has taken to her new bed; and some sense of normality has settled in the new abode. The connection for the dishwasher to the faucet, however, has yet to be obtained. No, I won't keep you posted!

DIATRIBES IN EBONY

(A Reminding Nose)

Emperor VIII David presents *Bitches In Black*, Friday, March 7, at 7:30 p.m. The location is Bjornson Hall, 2258 MacArthur Boulevard, Oakland (just off Fruitvale Avenue!). A special guest appearance will be made by Maxine Weldon. Proceeds go to East Bay Assistance Fund (EBAF) and Adopt-A-House (known to some as "BAASH") [Bay Area AIDS Sheppard House]. I guess only select bars received the posters and flyers.

CONTRACEPTIVE CAPER

(A "French raincoat" Nose?)

A limited supply of safe sex packets are now available at Revolver and Town & Country. Each packet contains two condoms, two tubes of "Probe" and instructions for safe sex.

Hopefully, when this supply is exhausted, there will be more available.

PRONUNCIAMENTO!

(A Disclosing Nose)

Mark your calendars for Friday, May 1. A "big" dinner is being planned by Little Mother. Tentative participants include: Appetizers, Orca; Soup, Emperor David; Pasta & Salad, Sam (T&C); Entree & Vegetables, Nez

Pas (!); and Dessert, Empress Mama Chuckles. Keep your eyes peeled for flyers and posters for further details.

Why is it that simple jobs always get put off because there will be time to do them later? I want to smile! Love,

Nez

E.B. Candidates Forum

On Thursday, Mar. 5, the East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club and the East Bay National Organization for Women P.A.C. will jointly host a candidates forum for the upcoming Oakland City Council, School Board and Peralta College Board elections. The forum will begin at 7 p.m. at Claremont Middle School, 5750 College Avenue (at Rockridge BART), Oakland.

Major candidates are scheduled to appear, including Tom Brougham, former president of the EBL/GDC, who is a candidate for the Peralta Community College Board of Trustees. If elected, Brougham would be the first openly gay elected official in the East Bay.

Bob Kegeles, current president of the EBL/GDC, stresses the importance of the forum. "This is the one point in the campaign that local candidates will be focusing on lesbian/gay and women's issues," he said. "It's vital that members of our community be present to impress upon the candidates that we're serious about lesbian/gay rights, the rights of people with AIDS, and the need for increasing AIDS services. The forum will be interesting and informational, for the candidates as well as for the community."

The forum will be free and open to all.

NCBLG Extends Director Search

The Board of Directors of the National Coalition of Black Lesbians and Gays (NCBLG) has announced an extension of its search for an executive director.

The executive director will be responsible for the administration and management of a small office in Washington, D.C., and functions as the spokesperson for the organization. The search committee will be particularly seeking to review applications from individuals with administrative, grant writing, fundraising, public speaking, and lobbying experience.

Applications and inquiries from interested individuals should be directed to the Search Committee, NCBLG, P.O. Box 2490, Washington, D.C. 20013, (301) 547-1784. Women are encouraged to apply. Resumes with cover letters must be received by 5 p.m., Monday, Mar. 15, 1987. ●

Alameda Opens Ranks For Gay Deputies

by Charles Linebarger

Alameda County Sheriff Charles Plummer is looking for a few good men and women, and he doesn't mind if they have a minority sexual orientation. He's not scouting them out, mind you, but he is accepting applications.

"We're looking for anybody," said Plummer. "I won't advertise, but anybody who qualifies, we're interested in hiring them. But they have to have a pretty clean drug record."

"In the next two years, we'll want about 200 deputies. We have a new jail to open and we're hiring right now so they'll be ready when the facility is opened. It's a nine or ten month process before a deputy is ready," Plummer told Bay Area Reporter.

Bob Kegeles, newly elected president of the East Bay Lesbian and Gay Democratic Club, said of Plummer, "Although he's a self-described Reagan Republican, he is good on human rights issues. He has gay and lesbian deputies. And although he is not doing a special recruiting drive in the gay community, he is open to us."

The next exam for Sheriff's Deputy I, the entry level position in the Alameda County Sheriff's Department, will be held in April, according to Sergeant Basil Kokoletos.

The qualifications for applicants are that they be high school graduates, or have an acceptable equivalent certificate. The minimum age requirement is 21 years as of June, 1987. There is no age limit on the other side. A valid California Driver's License is also required.

Applicants shouldn't be color blind or hearing impaired. They must be U.S. citizens, or have recently filed for citizenship.

"Candidates should be aware

that we are not primarily a patrol agency," said Sergeant Kokoletos. "Out of 700 to 800 badge people in our department, only 100 work out of a patrol car. Our people work in the jails and in civil work. You haven't lived until you've done civil work," added Kokoletos, "that includes garnishment of wages, eviction, and locking the doors of businesses."

All new deputies will be started at Santa Rita or another jail facility. And at the end of 23 months deputies progress to the position of Deputy Sheriff II.

Starting pay for new sheriff's deputies is \$1,917 to \$2,113 a month. "A salary increase is currently being negotiated," said Kokoletos.

Five to six hundred people will be taking the deputy sheriff exam, according to the sergeant, but only 50-60 of them will end up being hired. Those who are hired face an 18-week course in the police academy. "Many will fail in the academy or drop out during the probationary period," noted Kokoletos.

Alameda County already has gay police officers working for both the county and the cities within its borders. And Oakland and Berkeley both have laws protecting gay men and lesbians from job discrimination based on their sexual orientation. ●

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24th & Castro

HIV Testing

(Continued from page 1)

the case. "Gary U. had gone to Arlo Smith and asked that Mr. U's doctor be charged under the law with a misdemeanor," Philipson said. "Smith's office has so far refused to prosecute this case."

Last week, Gary U. filed suit against the insurance company in San Francisco Superior Court. He will try to use a civil lawsuit instead of the criminal process to prove that the confidentiality law was broken.

'NO CONFIDENTIALITY'

"It's a joke," Philipson said at a Feb. 18 press conference. "For many of these people there is no confidentiality." Philipson discussed the case of another client whose AIDS research results were disclosed by the San Francisco City Clinic.

"It was this simple: they used a contracting lab for the blood tests and a bill went out from the lab to the insurance company. At age 24, this man was kicked off his insurance. He will never get life or health insurance ever again," Philipson said.

Katherine Franke, an attorney for the Employment Law Center in San Francisco, said a good old boy network results in AIDS antibody-based discrimination.

"A gay waiter who was antibody positive went to his doctor and it so happened that the doctor was friends with the owner of the restaurant," Franke said. "The doctor told the owner and two days later the waiter was fired."

The issue of confidentiality of AIDS antibody tests is especially controversial now. This week in Atlanta, the Federal Centers for Disease Control (CDC) is holding a hearing on a proposal that all patients entering hospitals undergo the AIDS antibody test.



Katherine Franke
(B.A.R. Photo)

The CDC is promising that such testing will be confidential. But AIDS experts within the gay community—citing cases such as that of Gary U.—say such assurances are impossible.

Said Ben Schatz, AIDS issues attorney for National Gay Rights Advocates, "The government seems fixed on the idea of testing everybody. But this test is not a magic bullet. When the government proposes mandatory AIDS testing at hospitals, many who need health care will avoid medical services. Last year in San Francisco, activist Jerry Jansen died of an easily treated bacterial ear infection. Jansen did not go to the hospital because he was afraid he might have AIDS."

BIG BUCKS

Most breaches of antibody confidentiality are insurance-related. The nation's insurance carriers are using their enormous economic clout and political influence to push for widescale testing. The insurers want to exclude all antibody positive people entirely from health and life insurance coverage.

Breaches of confidentiality are as simple as the doctor's bill to the insurance carrier. An inattentive doctor, nurse or medical

clerk may inadvertently enter an identification for the AIDS antibody test on a bill to an insurance company—and the result is profound for the patient.

Insurance companies share client information with each other through a network called Medical Information Bureau (MIB). Clients excluded from one insurance policy for having a positive AIDS antibody test are usually registered with MIB.

Any future application for insurance from another insurer is likely to pull up the original AIDS antibody information from MIB—and result in a refusal to issue a policy.

The ramifications of such a refusal go beyond insurance. A new employee of a company may be investigated when his routine application for company-sponsored health or life insurance is rejected by the insurer.

Such problems usually surface within 60 days of employment, when it is easier to dismiss an employee without cause.

Insurance companies are raising the spectre of being ruined financially unless they can exclude antibody-positive people from insurance. The industry view was expressed Sunday in a cover story of the New York Times business section entitled, "Trying to Avoid an Insurance Debacle."

James Dederer, general counsel of TransAmerica Life Companies, told the Times, "If the current projections about the severity of the disease are valid, then the implications for the industry are awesome."

WHO PAYS?

Karen Clifford, a lobbyist for the insurance industry, was more direct. She told the Times that laws to prohibit widescale AIDS antibody testing "literally rip out the foundations of insurance and mark a very dangerous precedent

that could ultimately destroy the industry."

That drew a rebuke from California Assemblymember Art Agnos (D-S.F.), author of the state AIDS confidentiality law. Agnos said that widescale antibody testing for insurance exclusion "is a form of eugenics that will result in a marketplace premium for Aryan perfection—and second-class treatment for everyone with any predisposition to illness at all."

In the end it comes down to a question of who pays for the care of people with AIDS. State legislators know that if insurance companies find a way to avoid paying for the epidemic, then taxpayers will pay.

Agnos, speaking last month at the Stonewall Gay Democratic Club, said, "The insurers are so greedy they do not care" about the quality of health care given people with AIDS, or any other illness.

Agnos pointed out that some two dozen insurance companies are boycotting Washington, D.C. because the D.C. City Council passed an AIDS confidentiality ordinance. The ordinance is almost identical to Agnos' AIDS law in California. Since the District of Columbia is smaller, it was a better target for insurance companies.

State Sen. Quentin Kopp (Ind.-S.F.) agreed, saying at the Alice B. Toklas Democratic Club in late December, "The insurance companies are consumed with monumental greed."

Said Kopp, "I expect to be an advocate of legislation which outlaws the redlining of in-

surance coverage with respect to AIDS."

Kopp and Agnos believe, as do most legislators, that a failure by insurers to pay for AIDS and other catastrophic illnesses will simply shift that burden to the state. Thus, the public sector will assume the risk for society's most physically needy people—while insurers make a profit from the more physically healthy segments of society.

Larry Bush, an aide to Agnos, pointed out that the stakes are crucial for gay people. The consequences of loss of health insurance are obvious, said Bush. But equally important are the dangers of exclusion of life insurance, he said.

"Life insurance today is another way to provide financial services which people have to have," said Bush. "The day of the \$5,000 policy to bury dad and provide for the widow are long gone."

"Today, people buy life insurance with the expectation that they will borrow against it for a variety of crucial needs," Bush said.

Among those needs: life insurance which is necessary to secure the purchase of a home, a small business loan, or any similar "extensive line of credit."

Lack of life insurance could block a gay man's career, Bush said. "These days, most corporations require 'key man insurance' for someone moving into the top ranks of management," Bush said. "If you can't get that insurance, your job is in trouble."

OBITUARIES

(Continued from page 20)

Adalberto G. Martin

4/23/1948 - 1/6/1987

My good friend, Adalberto, in these few lines I want to tell the people who knew you of your passing. All who met you surely must have loved you, too.

I want you to know that you live on in my heart. I feel your presence. Thank you for joining your soul with mine. This way, even AIDS cannot triumph over us.



When he was diagnosed, we were shocked. Less than three weeks later, he died. I brought him home from S.F. General the day before. We slept our last night together. In the afternoon, he left his body as I held him in my arms. Oh, how I'd love to hold him now and forever. He was my beautiful baby.

Adalberto was born in Tepatitla, Mexico. He emigrated with his family to the Santa Barbara area when he was in his teens. Eight years ago, he came to San Francisco on an Art Institute scholarship. Painting and drawing were his creative gifts. He worked at Chirardelli's. He loved people and his canvases and drawings usually depicted the human race. He was a warm, gentle man who knew the meaning of love.

I'd like to thank our friends and neighbors who gave so much of their love. I'd also like to thank the volunteers at the hospital who comforted us, as well as the nurses who did everything they could, and Dr. Bartlett, who let me take him home.

So fast, so shocking, so unbelievable. Slowly, I'm going on. He's helping me. ●

John Kiefer

Robert "Bobby" Hilton



With deep sorrow we announce the passing of Robert Hilton, age 37, of San Francisco. Bobby died with a smile on his face after a 15-month fight against AIDS. He is survived by Tom Bolan, his lover of 14 years,

and by many friends. We will miss him. ●

Gene Hampton

Peterson

1945 - 1987

Gene passed away in the arms of his partner in life on Feb. 15 after a long battle with AIDS.



He is survived by his partner in life, Pierre Aguilera, his sister, Enalee Peterson Hall, his nephews C. Todd and Forrest Hall of Silver Springs, Maryland, his aunts Nina Taylor and Augusta Srb of Roanoke, Virginia, his cousins and many friends.

Gene has touched the lives of all the people who knew him. He will be remembered for his love for music and the theater. His proud contribution to the theater is a play he wrote called *Bye Bye (An Evening with Tallulah Bankhead)* which was produced in New York. He received a Rockefeller Grant for that play.

A memorial service was celebrated on Feb. 21 at Most Holy Redeemer Church. Donations in memory of Gene can be made to San Francisco Hospice, Most Holy Redeemer support group, Shanti or any AIDS charity of your choice.

So long, my love, until we meet again. ●

Paul Kenneth Howell

Paul Howell, 43, known to most by his nickname "Montana," died of pneumocystis pneumonia Jan. 17 at LA County-USC Medical Center. His ashes were scattered at sea and memorial donations to Aid for AIDS are suggested.

Born in Baltimore, MD, Howell lived in San Francisco at one time, then moved to Los Angeles. He always brought a smile to the faces of customers he served as a bartender at The Eagle in West Hollywood the past six years. Prior to that, he had expressed his creativity and artistic talents through his work in hairdressing, interior and fashion design and, of course, as the blonde-wigged master of ceremonies of The Cycle Sluts, a group of entertainers playing Los Angeles nightclubs in the mid-1970s. To those who knew and loved him, his memory will always bring a recollection of a loving and outrageous friend, and an image of that BIG blonde wig!

A special memorial service was held Feb. 11 at The Eagle to benefit Aid for AIDS. ●

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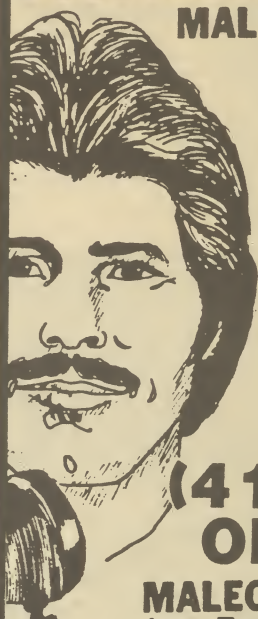
To celebrate, we're throwing a party for you, our patron. The festivities begin Friday, February 27, from 4 p.m. till midnight, when we roll back our admission prices to 1977 levels. The theme is Mardi Gras and we'll have the makings for the wildest party outside New Orleans. On Saturday, February 28, we will have hors d'oeuvres and exotic entertainment from 8 p.m. till midnight. "You're only ten once!" We'd like you to join us as we begin the next ten.

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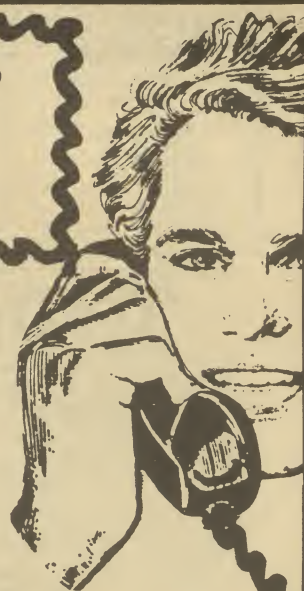
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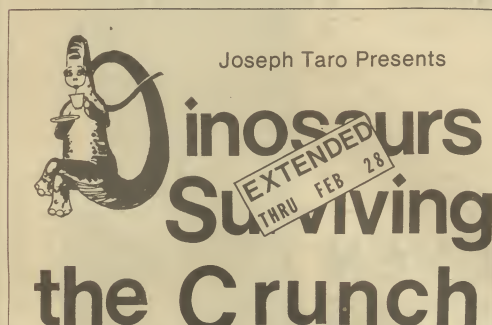
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THIS

FRIDAY 27

- **A Very Special Beer Bust:** featuring The Blazing Redheads and Miss Kitty and the Cycle Soul Blues, SF Eagle, 12th and Harrison, S.F., 8 PM, \$10. To benefit the Harry Britt for Congress Campaign.
- **Marga Gomez and Danny Williams:** comedy cabaret, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 8-10 PM, free.
- **Lisa Cohen and Nancy Henderson:** music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Gospel Blues with special guests.
- **Karen Guggenheim:** music, Sisterspirit Coffeehouse, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, doors open 8 PM, music begins 9 PM, \$3-\$7 sliding scale. Bulgarian music.
- **Women Meeting Women:** party, 6:30-10 PM. Dinner and conversation with games to follow. Call Midgett at 864-0876 to RSVP.
- **Black and White Men Together:** weekend in Yosemite. Call John at 863-0925 for more information.
- **The Bohemian Grove:** stage performance, New Performance Gallery, 3153 17th St., S.F., 8:30 PM, \$8. With Gary Aylesworth and Peter Newton back by popular demand. Tickets available at STBS and BASS. Call 863-9834 for reservations and more information.

SATURDAY 28

- **Cable Car Awards:** community awards ceremony, Giftcenter Pavilion, 8th and Brannan sts., S.F., 8 PM, \$10 general admission. Tickets at Headlines. Call 826-2999 or 421-3060 for more information.
- **Code Blue:** new women's bar open Saturdays only at 9:30 PM. Taylor and Lombard. Check it out!
- **Plutonium Players:** comedy, Julia Morgan Theatre, 2640 College Ave., Berkeley, 8 PM, \$7. Parts of *Extreme Rites* and *Ladies Against Women*.
- **Elaine Townsend and Glo Weibel:** music, Artemis Cafe, 1199 Valencia St., S.F., 8 PM, \$5. Ballads and originals.
- **Rich Montes Trio:** music, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 10 PM to 1 AM. Pop, jazz.
- **EastBay FrontRunners:** Lake Merritt run. Meet on the corner of 14th St. and Oak St. near the Cameron Stanford House at 9:30 AM. Flat three-mile loop. Call 526-7592 or 261-3246 for more information.
- **Girth and Mirth Club:** monthly dinner meeting. Call 552-1143 or 680-7612 for more information.
- **Fraternel Order of Gays:** game fest, FOG House, 304 Gold Mine Dr., S.F., 8 PM. Call 641-0999 for more information.
- **Learning to Live With the Loss of a Loved One:** workshop, Live Oak School, 117 Diamond St., S.F., 9 AM to 12:45 PM, free. Led by Lynn Ireland, PhD, MFCC. Call 282-9298 for more information.
- **The Bohemian Grove:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).

SUNDAY 1

- **San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus:** beer bust, SF Eagle, 12th and Harrison, S.F., 3-6 PM, \$7. With Men About Town and Danny Williams.
- **The Blazing Redheads:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 5:30-8:30 PM, \$6.
- **Mardi Gras Party:** with Voz do Samba, El Rio, 3158 Mission St., S.F., 4-8 PM, \$5.



Danny Williams and Marga Gomez do the Baybrick Feb. 27 (Photo: Rink)

- **Physique '87:** training workshop, City Athletic Club, 2500 Market St., S.F., 6:30 PM, \$3. Training programs and tips for the first gay bodybuilding championships (to be held in June) featuring personalized training instruction on proper weight training technique for each body part. Gay Games II physique medalists will pose. Call 431-6254 for more information.
- **Variety Show:** singing, dancing, comedy, and female impersonation, Bench and Bar, 120 11th St., Oakland, 10 PM.
- **G40+:** meeting, First Unitarian Church, 1187 Franklin St., S.F., 2 PM. Paul Walker will speak on Pedophilia and Cross Dressing: Gay Issues? Deviance? Plus Romeo's Rampant Raffle.
- **San Francisco FrontRunners:** Muni Pier run. Meet at the foot of Van Ness Ave. at 10 AM. Five miles flat, out and back. Call 673-7303 or 337-8703 for more information.



Charles Pierce and Barbara Cook will join the SF Gay Men's Chorus at Davies Hall March 5

- **International AIDS Phone-In:** on KALW, 91.7 FM, begins 7:15 AM. Produced by the British Broadcasting Corporation. Dial 44-1-580-4411 (calls will be accepted up to an hour and a half before the program begins) or write AIDS Phone-In, BBC Bush House, Strand, London, WC2B 4PH. Call 648-1177 for more information.
- **Calvary MCC:** worship service, 5 PM. Call 368-0188 for more information.
- **MCC of the Redwoods:** worship and communion service, Olive and Throckmorton Sts., Mill Valley, 10:45 AM. Call 388-2315 for more information.
- **Latter-Day Saints:** sacrament meeting for lesbians and gays and their friends, Sacramento Lambda Community Center, 1931 L St., Sacramento, 1 PM. Conducted by the Sacramento Family of the Restoration Church of Jesus Christ. Call (916) 447-5755 for more information.
- **Integrity:** Eucharist, St. John's Church, 1661 15th St., S.F., 5:30 PM.
- **MCC San Francisco:** worship and communion services, 150 Eureka St., S.F., 10:30 AM and 7 PM. Call 863-4434 for more information. Childcare and signing provided at morning service.
- **Church of the Secret Gospel:** 11 AM (see Friday for details).
- **St. Mark's Lutheran Church:** services, 111 O'Farrell (at Gough), S.F., communion at 8:30 AM and 11 AM. Call 928-7770 for details.
- **Diablo Valley MCC:** worship celebration, 2253 Concord Blvd., 10 AM. Call 827-2960 for details.
- **Affirmation-Gay and Lesbian Mormons:** meeting and services. Call 641-4554 for recorded message which details the meetings and rituals.
- **Golden Gate MCC:** Sunday worship services, 48 Belcher St. (between 14th St. and Duboce), S.F., 12:30 PM, 7 PM. Call 474-4848 for details.
- **Dignity:** Sunday Mass, St. Boniface Church, 133 Golden Gate (near Civic Center), 5:30 PM. Call 584-1714 for details.
- **Holy Trinity Church:** meets at the Billy DeFrank Community Center, 1040 Park Ave., San Jose, 10 AM to noon.
- **Eastern Orthodox:** Holy Ascension Mission, liturgy at 10 AM, 1671 Golden Gate #2, S.F. Call 563-8514 for more information.

WEEK

MONDAY 2

- **Ladies Against Women:** comedy, San Jose State University, Student Union, noon, \$5, \$3 with student ID.
- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** support group for older men (60+), Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 7-8:30 PM. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **Spirituality for Recovering Women:** support group, 3017 Geary Blvd., S.F., 7-8:30 PM, sliding scale. Call 239-4965 for more information.
- **Stress Reduction Workshop:** support group. Call 558-8454 for more information.
- **Emotional Support Group:** for people who have lost their lovers due to AIDS/ARC, 7:30 PM. Call Sean Martinfield at 626-4329 for more information.
- **Support Groups for PWA and those concerned about AIDS:** ongoing meeting, Kaiser Foundation Hospital, 2425 Geary Blvd., 3:30-4:45 PM. The meetings will be held in Conference Room B on the fifth floor. Call 929-4186 for details.

TUESDAY 3

- **Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders:** education forum, Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 1-2:30 PM. Discussion on the coming out process.
- **Gay Men's Sketch Class:** 7-10 PM in SofM flat. Call Mark at 621-6294 for more information. Sliding scale suggested donation. Open to all skill levels. Scott O'Hara will be the first model.
- **Gay Artists and Writers Collective:** meeting, 7 PM. Call 346-7305 for more information.
- **Drag Queen Social Group:** support group, 8 PM. Call 776-4025 for more information.

WEDNESDAY 4

- **Teresa Trull and Bonnie Hayes:** music, San Francisco State University, Student Union Barbary Coast room, 19th and Holloway Aves., S.F., 3 PM, \$3 students, \$4 in advance, \$5 day of show. Sponsored by the Associated Students Performing Arts and The Women's Center for International Women's Week. Call 469-2444 for more information.
- **Fruit Punch:** radio on KPFA, 94.1 FM, 10 PM. David Lamble talks about small town gays.
- **Wednesday Matinee With GLOE:** sponsored by Gay and Lesbian Outreach to Elders and North of Market Senior Services, this weekly program will offer movies, games, and refreshments for gay men and lesbians over 60 at 333 Turk St., S.F., 2:15-4:30 PM. Call 626-7000 for more information.



Want your body to look like this? Go to the Physique '87 training workshop at the City Athletic Club March 1
(Photo: Pride Publications)

- **Womanspirit:** MCC San Francisco, 150 Eureka, S.F., 7:30 PM.
- **People With AIDS Support Group:** meeting (see Friday for details).
- **Friends, Family, and Lovers of People With AIDS:** support group. Call the Shanti Project at 558-9644 for more information.

THURSDAY 5

- **A Night to Remember:** with Charles Pierce, Barbara Cook, and the San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, Davies Symphony Hall, S.F., 8 PM, \$10-\$45. A benefit performance for Golden Gate Performing Arts, season opener for the SF Gay Men's Chorus. Tickets at BASS and Ticketron, or call 431-5000 or 864-0326.
- **International Women's Day:** music festival, La Pena, 3105 Shattuck Ave., Berkeley, 8 PM, \$7-\$10 sliding scale. With Nancy Vogl, Woody Simmons, Detsy Rose, and Linda Hirschhorn with Tay Holden. Signed for the hearing impaired.
- **Ladies Against Women:** comedy, San Francisco State University, Student Union Barbary Coast Room, noon, \$2, \$1 with student ID.
- **East Bay Lesbian/Gay Democratic Club and East Bay NOW:** candidates' forum, Claremont Middle School, 5750 College Ave., Oakland, 7 PM. For forthcoming Oakland City Council and School Board and Peralta College Board elections.
- **The Age of Adhesiveness:** lecture, Women's Building, 3543 18th St., S.F., 7:30 PM, \$5. A lecture by Professor Michael Lynch about male-male intimacy in 19th century New York sponsored by the San Francisco Bay Area Gay and Lesbian Historical Society.
- **Male Strippers:** and female impersonators, N'Touch, 1548 Polk St., S.F., 10:30 PM.
- **Gay Men's Disability Group:** Operation Concern, 1853 Market St., S.F., 5:30-7 PM. Facilitated by Tom Ossenbeck, MA. Call 626-7000 for more information.
- **The Bohemian Grove:** stage performance (see Friday listing for details).
- **Calvary MCC:** meets at 5 PM. Call 368-0188 for more information.
- **Bonnie Hayes:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 7 PM. Solo on piano.
- **Pat Wilder's R&B Jam:** music, Baybrick Inn, 1190 Folsom St., S.F., 10 PM, \$2. All musicians welcome.

The Bay Area Reporter welcomes organizations, businesses, and individuals to submit items for its weekly calendar. Placement in the calendar is free and the sole responsibility of the editors. Deadline: 5 PM on Thursdays.

Mardi Gras

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BAY AREA REPORTER ENTERTAINMENT

Political Theater

Amerika vs. Ladies Against Women

by Wendell Ricketts

Given what appears to be many San Franciscans' preoccupation with Dress-For-Success seminars, sun-dried tomatoes, and getting past the doorman at Club DV8, it may come as no surprise that theater with political relevance has become approximately as rare as a friendly salesclerk. After all, theater responds to the fancy of its audiences, however somnolent they may be. On the other hand, since we spend our days living a political reality that ought to make us all vaguely psychotic, why should we spend our evenings at "meaningful" theater? On the other hand, what sometimes passes for political drama bears not the slightest resemblance to an honorable tradition of illuminating social, in contrast to political, truths. Indeed, if political honesty had anything to do with anything, the poor creature who first came up with the idea for ABC's *Amerika* would be back working his old job at Galenkamp's.

Speaking of *Amerika*, which premise did you find most difficult to swallow? That Soviets took over the U.S. of A. because all the wimpy liberals in Washington let them? Or that Kris Kristofferson spent months shooting a 14-hour miniseries and somehow failed to notice what right-wing trash it was?

If you're prone, as I am, to asking such questions, you would have found good company at Berkeley's La Pena Feb. 15, when the opening episode of *Amerika* aired at the Plutonium Players' "satirical viewing party," *Amerikon*. "Bring soybeans," said the promotional material. "You'll know when to throw them at the screen."

Amerikon was only the latest event in the Plutonium Players' ten-year history of political satire in the Bay Area. Best known for their brainchild, *Ladies Against Women*, the Players trace their

origins to Hiroshima Day 1977, and a premiere performance before a cheering throng in Golden Gate Park.

That event, a project of the Information Through Theatre Working Collective of People Against Nuclear Power, was also the acting debut of Plutonium Players' core-group member, Gail Williams. "When I first got into this," she recalled, "I didn't intend to perform. That wasn't my background. So I went to their meeting and said, 'I'm willing to help with writing and script-editing, or I can do the research for a good script on an issue.'"

But Williams hadn't fully apprehended the collectivist sentiments of the Information Through Theatre group, who expected members to share backstage and performing roles equally. Her announcement was met with silence. "Well," someone finally said, "we have a part we need you to do..." So it was that Williams found herself on stage at Golden Gate Park, dressed in silver mylar, her mind whirring feverishly to remember her three lines. The historic role? "I was the Alamagordo Test Bomb," she smiles.

Her part in the anti-nuke skit wasn't intended to be funny, but Williams' stage fright and bizarre costume gave her performance a certain hysterical edge that the crowd loved. "Once I had stood and made people laugh," she said, "even unintentionally, I was totally hooked!" The introduction of other members attracted by the theater aspect changed the group's agenda and began the rapid evolution of the Plutonium Players.

In 1980 the Players took their "Reagan for Shaw" campaign to the Republican convention, where the Detroit police followed them with video cameras and Secret Service agents observed



Gail Ann Williams as Virginia Cholesterol (l.), Jaime Mars-Walker as The Rev. Jerry Fallout (c.), and Selma Spector as Mrs. T. Bill Banks (r.) of the National Association for the Advancement of Rich People in The Plutonium Players' *Ladies Against Women* (Photo: D. Marchand)

their performances. It was in that same year that the Players' most popular avatar, *Ladies Against Women*, was born.

"We started *Ladies Against Women* at a time when there was a lot of feminist organizing going on," Williams recounted, "and a lot of public events and demonstrations. Remember, 1982 was the deadline for E.R.A. So there were all these opportunities to use our material as street theater and adapt it. We kept updating and fine-tuning the show, and it got really good."

'The humor has to go both ways.'

So good, in fact, that the Ladies' one-act stage production, *An Evening of Consciousness-Lowering*, was named one of the year's "Best Overall Productions" by the Chronicle in 1982. The show moved to North Beach in 1983, and a sequel, *Bad Mothers*, was mounted at the People's Theatre Coalition at Fort Mason during the 1984 Democratic Convention. The Ladies also journeyed to the Republican

Convention in Dallas that year, where they held their history-making "Bake Sale for the Deficit."

With their pillbox hats, pink chiffon scarves, and slogans like "Mommies, Mommies, Don't be Commies/Stay at Home and Fold Pyjammies," "It's Unladylike to Accept Money for Work," and "Bring Back the Great Society," the Ladies can seem like something out of a William Danne-meyer wet dream. They are, however, some kind of a joke, as is much of the Plutonium Players' work. Still, a serious intention underlies the satire. "We all care about politics," asserts Williams, "and our way of dealing with it is to look for humor. Not the kind of humor that says it's all meaningless anyway and who cares, but real pointed humor that still allows us to have analysis and to learn."

Making people laugh may be a sneaky way to raise political consciousness, but it appears to work. "We often get letters from people who say they came to a show and brought a friend, or their boss, or lover, or sister, or someone, and they expected it to be light and pretty safe. But then they'll say they got into the strangest argument afterward, and talked about issues they'd never discussed before. And they thank us for it! We're able to notice at intermission sometimes that something interesting is going on with people in the audience, that there's a conflict about why someone laughed at something their friend found mean or just too painful to be funny."

Indeed, Williams notes, political satire can't always guarantee that everyone will get the joke. "We once had a really angry denunciation of the Ladies in a letter to a women's paper in Boston. The writer said, 'These people aren't making fun of women's roles; they're making fun of women themselves.' Of course, I see this very clearly as dealing with roles—and dealing with them not as outsiders. I mean, even if we don't like the way the right wing glorifies the home role, no one in our group has escaped having to do her dishes."

"But this woman wrote, 'You'd never see a black group doing something called 'Blacks Against Niggers.' Well, let's say that you got the title right and it would be 'Negroes Against Blacks.' That's what it would be, because we don't say 'Broads Against Women.' And let's say you're talking about 1968-69, since in these times, I don't think it would happen. But my God, if that were the title and a black theater company were putting it together, I'd go see it. It could be wonderful! Those splits exist in any movement."

Williams says, "six or seven mayors you could name" who might be parodied in "Negroes Against Blacks," and the mind fairly reels at the possibilities for "Homosexuals Against Gays." I nominate the Los Angeles' gay Log Cabin Republican Club for endorsing A.A. "Del" (Machine Gun) Pierce as head of the DMV. But it isn't just a matter of the "PC vs. the not-PC." As Williams puts it, "The Humor has to go both ways."

★ ★ ★

The Players reprise their satirical review, *Extreme Rites*, for one night only at the Julia Morgan Theatre in Berkeley (548-7234) Feb. 28. Featuring such gems as the \$699.95 Club, Mussolini Meadows (a community for "retired" dictators), and the Nuclear Winter Wardrobe Fashion Show, *Extreme Rites* ran for four weeks last Fall at Club 181 (on Eddy Street near Taylor).

Rites travels now to Berkeley, Williams says, "for all the people from the East Bay who came to see us in the Tenderloin, drove around the block, and decided not to park." In addition, *Ladies Against Women* make a number of Bay Area appearances during International Women's Week: San Jose State (March 2, noon), San Francisco State (March 5, noon), U.C. Med School (March 6, 8 p.m., with Marga Gomez and Dominique Di Prima), and De Anza College (March 12, 11:30 a.m.). Further information may be had by calling the Plutonium Players at 841-6500, ext. 331.



Members of the Plutonium Players in a round-table discussion of *Amerika*

Bent Out of Shape

by Steve Warren

The Nazis should get co-author credit for *Bent*, because their historical contribution has more impact than any of Martin Sherman's dramatic inventions. Being the only play about the persecution of gays in Nazi Germany has automatically made it the best play on the subject, and taking eight years to reach San Francisco has allowed it to build a mystique. Too much anticipation has mounted for the only partially effective production at San Francisco Repertory Theatre to satisfy it.

'With threats of quarantine back in the news, the time is ripe for a cautionary tale ...'

Bent opens with a 15-minute domestic scene that could be from a gay sitcom taking place anytime, anywhere. It's supposed to give us time to identify with the characters, and to relax us so the horrors to come will be even more horrible. Instead, Michelle Truffaut directs her actors to play it straight and portentously—these men have no happiness, so what do they have to lose?

Part of the problem is that Wayne Paul Mattingly, who plays Max, is not a comedic actor. The more intense the play becomes, the better he gets, even dropping his irritating habit of overenunciating. He's even okay with the occasional funny line that relieves the tension of the second act, momentarily turning Dachau into Hogan's *Queer-os*; but he doesn't have the necessary light touch to be Desi in *I Love Rudy*, and the play starts off on the wrong foot.

Liam O'Brien, as Rudy, does not give him much to be light-hearted about—two cups of coffee with a teaspoon of affection in the midst of a justifiable stream of kvetching about Max's drunken whoring and life in general. Enter Exhibit A: Wolf (Philip Justin Smith), last night's trick. Pardon me for noticing, but under the circumstances giving the role to a circumsized actor must be considered nontraditional casting.

The Gestapo come for Wolf and the horrors begin. The Audience, unfortunately, responds more to the sound effects and blood than to the fact of what's happening.

A Taste of Honey

The women of Congregation Sha'ar Zahav extend an invitation for a weekend of Jewish celebration for Jewish lesbians and their women friends. The celebration will take place Friday through Sunday, May 15-17, at Camp Swig in the Santa Cruz mountains.

There will be Shabbat services, Ladino music, Israeli folkdancing, swimming and sports, a Saturday night dance party, schmoozing, and workshops on creating women's rituals, the role of the cultural Jew, legal issues for lesbians, Jews by choice, Jewish lesbians with non-Jewish partners, and Jewish lesbian mothers. Special programs are also planned for children.

Reduced rates are available before March 15. For a fee schedule, costs, and registration forms, call Betty Kalis at 221-2265. •

Drew Eshelman gives the first of three fine performances in the next scene, as the nongay female impersonator who owns the club where Rudy works—er, worked; from that moment on, he and Max are on the run, on a road that takes Max to Dachau, while Rudy doesn't get that far.

The S.F. Rep stage is somewhat problematic, but the first two scenes—a "what a dump" apartment and a tacky dressing room—would work better if the sets were side-by-side instead of each sprawling over the full stage. Later, the swinging doors on a boxcar look silly; black curtains could mask the exits less inappropriately.

The other major character, Horst, is introduced in the boxcar scene. He's played by Sean O'Brien, Liam's brother. Aside from a strong family resemblance, these young men share a strong acting talent. Sean is the best in the cast at delivering Sherman's quasi-Pinteresque dialogue effectively.



Wolf (Philip Justin Smith) is slain by a Nazi (Tom Redalia) as Rudy (Liam O'Brien, c.) and Max (Wayne Paul Mattingly, r.) look on in horror in the SF Rep production of *Bent*

Act Two, featuring the famous no-touch sex scene, is set entirely in a yard in Dachau, where Max and Horst work together 12 hours a day shifting rocks from one pile to another and back again. No one could help falling in love in such a situation, not even Max, who prides himself on his passionless talent for survival.

While I won't reveal the ending, two major staging problems were evident in the climactic scene on opening night. One might be blamed on the set, which doesn't accommodate the action. The other is in the blocking, as guards have to shoot through one character to hit another.

With threats of quarantine back in the news, the time is ripe for a cautionary tale of another time and place where people thought "It can't happen here." The script of *Bent* is adequate, the production flaws largely correctable, for the S.F. Rep version to serve that purpose better than it did last week when I saw it. •

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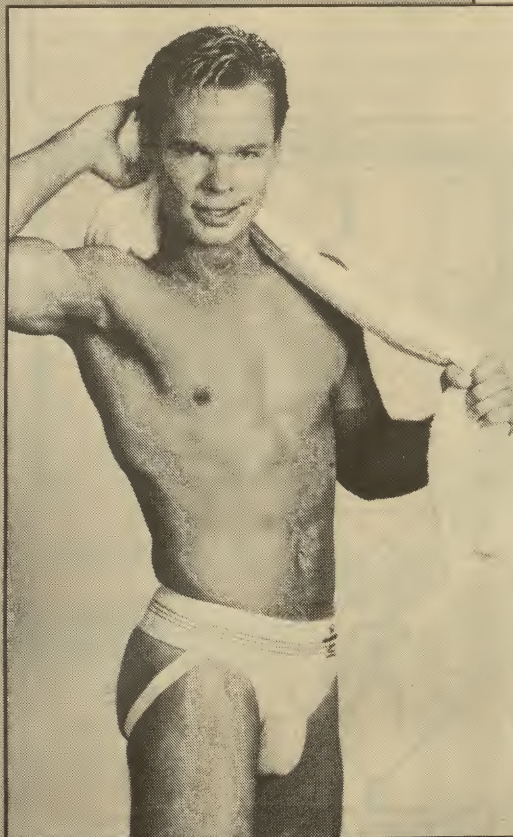
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John Karr

Mostly Melancholy Mummery

First this week, a tasty bon-bon, because the rest of the news isn't good. Choosing among the three major shows I saw, I'd just as soon stay home with a friend, make a fire, pour some wine, and cozy-up while listening to a charming new record called *Mostly Mercer*.

There's nothing trendy or hysterical about this record, which makes it all the more cherishable. It's an album for traditionalists. Its merely (!) got 16 classic Johnny Mercer songs, 12½ classy lady singers and 1½ male singers to sing them, and arrangers and accompanists like Peter Matz, Michael Feinstein, and jazz great Tommy Flanagan to set them off perfectly.

The song titles range from standard favorites to choice novelties, and some re-discoveries. These include a lovely but overlooked ballad from *The Pink Panther*, plus a song or two cut from Broadway shows and here making first-ever appearances. As if that wasn't enough for connoisseurs, these songs are complemented by the last song Yip Harburg ever wrote and a Gershwin ballad recently unearthed from the archives, "Ask Me Again." It's a classic.

And the singers? *Ain't Misbehavin's* Armelia McQueen, *Woman of The Year* Tony winner Marilyn Cooper, and local gal making oh-so-good, Nancy LaMott. Among these pros, Nancy stands out with her dream of a turn through "Beautiful Baby," but to her many local fans that will be no surprise.

One big surprise, though, is the sudden and urgent voice of Judy Garland, in a brand new recording made by Jim Bailey. That accounts for those "½'s" in the counting of performers: do you count Jim as Judy male or female? Doesn't matter; count him fine. The Arlen/Mercer "Out of This World" is a lovely tune the real Judy never sang. But it's clearly within her territory, and here Jim Bailey makes it hers... er, his... well, theirs.

Not surprisingly *Mostly Mercer* is on the Painted Smiles label, along with many other finely cast show-tune recordings. Sometimes difficult to find, Painted Smiles is always in stock at The Gramophone on Polk Street.

★ ★ ★

The San Francisco Mime Troupe has many times been exactly what it calls itself—"America's Finest Political Theatre Company!" But in tackling the subject of American foreign policy in the form of a "spy thriller" called *The Mozamgola Caper*, the Troupe's frequently lauded wit, theatrical style, and musical energy have become heavy, forced, sometimes tedious, and nearly always unintelligible. Whatever intentions and material the Troupe started with sure got garbled and traduced along the way to this show.

Perhaps it's the conflict between the Troupe's ostensibly simple form of presentation and the complexity of what they wanted to say about the American brand of hands-across-the-sea, which the Mime Company wants to show is nothing less than imperialism. But the complexity of the political information and



So you wanna be a Rock 'n' Roll star? — Leslie Ball at the mike in the Berkeley Rep's *Painting It Red* (Photo: F. Speiser)

the convolutions of the thriller form, with its secret identities, dark secrets and numerous double-crossings, is simply too dense for the Troupe's one-dimension presentational style. The result is an evening of great effort and little mirth in which the aggressively noisy obfuscation of information leads after two overblown hours to the exact thing political theater is not supposed to be: a shouted harangue. At least this speech's logic is finally understandable, and segues into a rhythmic and theatrical finale, a litany of countries which have endured our "help." But it's too late.

There are moments of interest in the personal conflicts involved, which question where personal life and public role coincide. Shabaka, with his mournfully comic face, deadpan Ed Holmes, suave Jesse Moore, and especially the cartoon toughness and precision of Sigrid Wurschmidt are the cast standouts. But they struggle heroically to shoulder the inert burden of *The Mozamgola Caper*, which plays through March 8 at Theatre Artaud (285-1717).

★ ★ ★

Harold Pinter's *The Birthday Party* is a milestone of 20th-century drama, and for that reason alone is worthy of revival. Innovative in both writing style, with its terse exchanges that prefigure and lead to Stoppard and Mamet, and the illusiveness of its meaning, *The Birthday Party* can be riveting theater. The current production at the Berkeley Repertory Theatre is a respectable professional mounting of the show which doesn't quite fulfill the play's reputation or potential.

The Birthday Party finds Stanley mouldering in an English boarding house run by a mundane couple. Two gangsters arrive to terrorize and interrogate Stanley during his birthday party. When finished, Stanley has

been reduced to a soulless husk of a person, as if lobotomized. He leaves with the two gangsters to an unspecified fate, and the house returns to its unchanging routine.

Pinter is careful to offer no explanations. We can interpret the play or not, depending on our whim. You may see the Establishment forcing man into conformity, or you may extrapolate the S&M games to an international political level, or you may see it simply as it appears—Stanley's in trouble with drug runners. But you don't have to interpret it at all. Pinter doesn't bother to, and neither do I.

It should work on a more subliminal level than plot. But for all the wit and revelation of its word play, this unripe production doesn't surround us with the intangible aura the script intimates. Though handsomely set by John Bonard Wilson, with eerily creative sound by James LeBrecht, this *Party* is not urgent enough to keep the illusiveness intriguing. The first act's humor is inorganically ladled on and heavy handed, and the second act "party" scene lacks the mounting tension that should galvanize us. So when the interrogation begins anew in the third act, we sense only repetition, neither the mystery of ritual and submission nor the menace of the unknown.

Anthony Taccone directed; Lawrence Ballard is Stanley; and Blacett Reynolds, who appeared in Studio Rhino's *Copi Plays*, makes a fine cameo of the neighborhood tart and gets to neck with Tony Amendoza as the slick thug. Lucky girl; that provides more interesting potentialities than this cool production; through March 21 (845-4700).

★ ★ ★

Yuppie romance and yuppie rock music make up the vacuous *Painting It Red*, which the Berkeley Rep has opened at The Addition Theatre

(Continued on next page)

Keith White

The Beauty of ABT

Whatever questions I might have had regarding the present strength of American Ballet Theatre were resolved by the felicitous of the current engagement, continuing through March 1 at the War Memorial Opera House. Amid the many risings to sparkling occasions that have occurred during the company's first five days, the choreographic debut of company member Clark Tippet and the debut of an extraordinary young male virtuoso, Julio Bocca, shone most brightly, though several well-deserved elevations in rank and some exceptional performances by emerging soloists were equal causes for celebration. In fact, no one who is sensitive to physical beauty could fail to be moved by the hand-picked excellence of the dancers of today's ABT. If America has a better looking ballet company, I haven't seen it.

Julio Bocca, from Argentina, at 19 already a formidable technician and sensitive partner, made his San Francisco debut last Wednesday night in the *Sylvia* pas de deux with Cheryl Yeager, who was elevated to the rank of principal dancer two weeks ago in Chicago. I never hope to see a more unified musicality, a greater romantic charm or clarity of execution than those shown by Yeager and Bocca as they sailed through that beautiful Balanchine showpiece. Yeager's profile, that of an exceptionally gifted soubrette, has taken on a richer patina. Her recent promotion may have enhanced her self-confidence, and in Julio Bocca she may have discovered her ideal partner. Bocca has the requisite elevation (and he turns like a top), but these pyrotechnics are tempered with great lyrical refinement, his projection warm and true, "from the heart." As a friend remarked, "His dancing has love in it." Bocca and Yeager

gave an equally marvelous performance the next night in Balanchine's *Donizetti Variations*, happily encountering the considerable risks of the pas de deux with perfect accuracy and musicality.

Just as most musicians cannot compose music, most dancers cannot choreograph. ABT principal dancer Clark Tippet is one who can, as evidenced by his premiere effort, *Enough Said*, to the Serenade No. 3 for piano and chamber orchestra by contemporary composer George Perle. For listeners accustomed to traditional ballet scores, Perle's music has a random, disorganized sound, relieved during its third section (the pas de deux in Tippet's ballet) by an eerie lyricism. Those choreographers who display real understanding of contemporary music are even rarer than dancers who choreograph, but Tippet connected with this complex, intimidating score with an amazing degree of kinetic specificity, allowing me to hear more in the music than would ever have been possible in a blind listening.

When the strikingly exotic-looking Nora Kimball dances with three men, the designs their bodies make look like constructivist art. (Think of sculptures made with tinkertoys.) This very tactile partnering is performed with an air of detachment that precludes romance, resulting instead in an emotion more like desire. Giorgio de Sant'Angelo's costumes, loincloths over multi-colored unitards, along with Tippet's slightly dehumanizing approach to the choreography, combine to create a crackling sexual tension, at its highest during the pas de deux for Kimball and the male lead, Robert Hill. For Hill, Tippet has made an impressive, strangely heroic role, like a contemporary, urban Apollo. A glimpse of Hill's powerful, aristocratic physique is alone worth



Robert Hill, et al, in Clark Tippet's *Enough Said*

(Photo: M. Swope)

the price of admission.

Paquita divertissements and *Theme and Variations*, ABT staples over the past several years, remain as rewarding to me as ever, though many observers said they'd tired of the former. When I wrote last week that we must depend on the Trocadero for the mannerisms of bygone ballet, I had not yet seen Leslie Browne dance the ballerina role in *Paquita*. For two days afterward local dancers talked of nothing else. Browne, who has grown from the naive girl we saw in *The Turning Point* into a very beautiful adult, dances with a dangerously reckless attack, often ahead of the music, and exaggerating every gesture in a quasi-demented way. Only Gelsey Kirkland, in recent years, has behaved so eccentrically.

Theme and Variations was given a thrilling performance, with Amanda McKerrow, also recently elevated to principal dancer, partnered by Julio Bocca as a last-minute replacement for Patrick Bissell. McKerrow is now a leading exponent of this role, and Bocca, in his second San Francisco appearance, more than upheld the initial impression he'd made. Theoni V. Al-

dredge's new costumes are gorgeous almost to the point of decadence, an intense violet for the corps and coral-colored for the principals, the jewel-encrusted bodices surmounted by ornate chokers and glittering tiaras, the tutus heavily frosted with gold. I broke out in a sweat during the final "Polacca," my normal response when this ballet's tension maintains the constant crescendo inherent in both the music and the choreography.

Adding the crowning touch to the opening week was the local premiere of a new production of that grandest of Tchaikovsky/Petipa ballets, *The Sleeping Beauty*, with sets and costumes by Nicholas Gerogiadis. The English period costumes are for the most part quite beautiful and an interesting change from the French periods normally used. The scenery, containing a few too many cherubs and an awful lot of draped satin in the palace scenes (Someone said it looked like a Christmas window at Saks Fifth Avenue), also crowded the stage, leaving barely enough room for the dancing.

The physical production aside, the producers wisely followed the

current anti-revisionist trend, using choreography based largely on the 1890 Petipa plan, as recalled by Nicholas Sergeyev and others. A new Act II solo for Prince Desire, made by Kenneth McMillan, looks very un-Petipa in effect, yet serves its purpose. A pas d'action in Aurora's bed-chamber at the beginning of the awakening scene, involving a confrontation between the Prince, the Lilac Fairy, and the evil fairy Carabosse, is too protracted and, for my money, unnecessary anyway. It was not indicated in the original libretto.

ABT presented two exemplary Auroras at the first two performances, though I'm told that in all, seven sets of principals were rehearsed. Susan Jaffe, who seemed to approach the role organically, rendered the choreography with flawless integrity. Amanda McKerrow's Aurora had a somewhat more coached look, highly impressive in another way. Leslie Browne as the Lilac Fairy, was (after seeing her in *Paquita*) predictably frenetic; Jennet Zerbe (Lilac Fairy in McKerrow's cast), all wisdom and graciousness. Victor Barbee and Michael Owen were both vividly imperious as the evil fairy, Carabosse.

Karr

(Continued from previous page)

as part of its "parallel season." The authors of this drive about relationships won't call it a musical or a play with music, settling on the high-falutin' subtitle, "A Concertplay." The play, they explain, is "really the spaces between songs on an album." It's more like connecting scenes to MTV.

Liz is a waitress/rock singer/veteran of singles bars; an easy-going girl. She meets Eric, a snappy, pretentious, anal critic. Though mismatched, it takes them three years and several run-of-the-mill rock tunes to break up. After much conversing with her friends (more songs and does-not-apply-monologues) she meets William. It's a good match, but they're wounded by previous exes. They hesitate. Curtain.

I skipped Cynthia Gregory and bigboy Patrick Bissell in *Sleeping Beauty* to gamble on this show. Berkeley Rep has had a perfect score for adventurous, novel productions, and I'm interested in shows that purport to use music and song freshly. I lost the gamble on all accounts with this show. Gower Champion used music more creatively, the exploration of interpersonal relationships herein lacked any credibility, and the admittedly ample amount of

wit and one-liners all sprang not from the characters but from easy targets, like food criticism or having a mime as a lover ("He opened doors for me I didn't even know were there"). The reason there's no intermission in this hour and three quarter wait-out is that too many people would leave. *Painting It Red* is recommended only for avowed heterosexuals, and even then, they'd better be single, in their 30s and dating.

On the other hand, another reason I went was to see Jeffrey King, who plays both Eric and William, and James Carpenter, as Roy. This was a gamble I won. If you can withstand the show, you'll admire Carpenter's acting in a cipher role, and swoon for both of King's lovers. He's an actor of incredible charm, and is there a more handsome leading man in town? Thank god he's such a strong actor, because I'd hate to be politically incorrect and like him just for his looks.

Richard E.T. White shows easy restraint with his direction. Though Leslie Ball's acting is true, she embodies every cliché of girl rock singers, even turning her head upside down to flail her hair. Judith Marx is Judith Marx; I never tire of her clarity and comprehension. I feel bad they must go through this empty and, despite its newly minted subtitle, un-innovative show, nightly through March 15 (845-4700). ●

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Time Warp

The concept of traveling backward and forward through time has fascinated man ever since the idea first came up for discussion. Long before such movies as *Back To The Future* and *Star Trek IV: The Voyage Home* were released, science fiction writers were toying with the idea of catapulting man through the time barrier so he could fight dinosaurs, visit ancient Egypt, argue with Christ, and communicate with intergalactic aliens from higher forms of civilization. Recently, while watching *Peggy Sue Got Married*, I was fascinated by the manifestations of culture shock which resulted from time travel, particularly in the scene where Peggy Sue explained to a high school friend that "Everything will grow smaller in the future but, for some reason, radios will become much bigger!"

Perhaps because I've always

been a heavy dreamer, the concept of traveling through time seems quite natural to me. When I'm asleep, my imagination takes me through dimensions which are radically different from the sensate world I know in my waking state. Even in my waking state, I've had several experiences with déjà vu that were genuinely unnerving. What these experiences tend to stimulate most is thinking along nonlinear patterns. Whereas many men tend to think in strictly directional terms, my mind tends to digest thoughts and spit them out in spherical or other nonlinear patterns. As a result, there are more gray areas, more chances for indecision and — on a few genuinely delightful occasions — some exciting new ideas. And new ideas are what really turn me on.

ON TO THE FUTURE

Two recent productions fascinated me for their ability to stretch the dimensions of culture

and language by randomly cross-cutting the barriers of time. One of the most deliciously droll and gentle comedies I've experienced in recent years has to be Eric Overmyer's *On The Verge*, which was seen last fall at the Oregon Shakespearean Festival. In his play, Overmyer follows three female explorers on their journey through time and space, beginning in 1888 in Terra Incognita and ending in 1955 in Las Vegas. Although two of the women decide to abandon their time travels after finding happiness in Las Vegas, Mary — the devoted anthropologist who cannot resist the challenge of the future with all its freshness of discovery — continues to move on.

For a writer who loves to play with words, *On The Verge* was three hours of sheer ambrosia. Why? Because, more than anything else, this drama is a game of semantics. Words and phrases which have specific meanings in one context take on quaint or confusing meanings in another.

My favorite moment occurred when the three explorers, while trying to cross a rope bridge, encountered a fierce river demon. "I wonder what it must be like to go through life as a troll!" exclaimed one of the women. Although there was no way the characters onstage could have known how funny such a statement would sound to a gay man who survived the 1970s, such plays on words account for the bulk of Overmyer's wit in this comedy.

As *On The Verge* continued to unfold on the stage of the Angus Bowmer Theatre, it became interesting to note how the audience's resistance to Overmyer's daring concept diminished. Indeed, as the three women traveled from Queen Victoria's time to Elvis Presley's heyday, theatergoers became infinitely more at ease with Overmyer's juxtaposition of words and thoughts. Curiously enough, by the time the three explorers reached the 1950s, the audience seemed to be

awash in nostalgia for its youth. Although the play ended on what, for me, was an intellectual high, you'd have to share the experience to know why.

William Bloodgood's witty unit set, combined with Jerry Turner's simple and sensitive direction, made *On The Verge* a fascinating experience in theater. And, although Demetra Pittman and Ursula Meyer were superb as Fanny and Alexandra, I was particularly charmed by Marie Livingston's portrayal of the ever-inquisitive Mary. Douglas Markkanen appeared in a wealth of supporting roles, which included the aforementioned troll, the Abominable Snowman, Mr. Coffee, Madame Nhu, and a Las Vegas lounge lizard named Nicky Paradise.

OUT OF TIME, OUT OF MIND

While *On The Verge* concentrated on the specific ways in

(Continued on page 38)

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Mardi Gras
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Illustration: Richard Cheney

Costume Ball
Sat., Feb. 28

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BEST
COSTUME: 1st Prize 2nd Prize 3rd Prize
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T H E



A D I F F E R E N T B E A T

Philip Campbell

Intermission

While the San Francisco Symphony continues its travels, little more than half done with a 17-city European tour, one might imagine Davies Hall as a pretty peaceful spot. Rather than vacation, however, the remaining staff is embarked on a crucial course of renewal and preparation.

The box office is busy selling tickets for the forthcoming Mostly Mozart Festival. Public Relations is coping with the transition to a new director, and a potential Pandora's box has been opened with the appointment of Chicago based R. Lawrence Kirkegaard and Associates to explore and determine temporary solutions to the acoustical problems plaguing the hall since opening night seven years ago.

Hiring a new music director predictably sends shock waves through every aspect of the operation, and the presence of Herbert Blomstedt is now being felt in many subtle and obvious ways.

The recent announcement of programming for 1987-88 makes this eminently clear. It also proves the Maestro's commitment to what he calls "rediscovery" and others term serious-minded conservatism. Still, a closer look at the schedule softens the initial sense of ponderousness and reveals many concessions to the more musically adventurous.

Regular subscribers, traditionally stodgy, though said to be better educated here, will surely respond favorably to the frequent appearance of the names Beethoven, Brahms, Mozart, and Bruckner on the roster. Whether they will be pleased by Blomstedt's desire to honor American composers as well remains to be seen. Copland might bridge the gap and Ives just barely, but Fine, Sessions, Davidovsky, and the vastly underrated Roy Harris could strain relations.

Orchestral improvement begun by Edo de Waart is blossoming into wonderful discipline and ensemble with Blomstedt. Additional impetus comes from a potential partnership with London Records. The print isn't dry on the contract negotiations, but that didn't stop London from put-

ting an advertisement in the program book while the players barnstormed England.

After years of complaining, with nothing but incredulous response, critics should be thrilled at the seemingly sudden decision to take action on the sound problems at Davies Hall. Talk of dead spots, poor resonance, impossibility for players to hear each other properly, and "dinkification" has been going on in a vacuum, but all that is changing with the assignment of a big-league task force.

If I watch with one eyebrow firmly raised it is simply from a certain disbelief in the expertise of so-called consultants. I certainly wait with crossed fingers while Kirkegaard's team pushes proposals that include new absorptive coverings, reversal of stage walls and, most dramatically, the installation of an acoustical tent, replacing the present discs flying in the dead space over the orchestra. As long as microphones and electronic equipment remain decidedly taboo, I will cheer the "experts" in their efforts to give the great new sound of the orchestra a fitting showcase.

Finally, on the subject of change, I should like to say au revoir to departing Public Relations Director David Landis. David began his work with the Symphony at a time of intense change: Edo de Waart was new, Davies Hall was opening, John Adams was made Composer-in-Residence, and the New and Unusual Music Series was premiering.

My professional relationship with the San Francisco Symphony has always been enthusiastically supported by the Public Relations department and by David Landis in particular. His impressive accomplishments over the years have always been directly related to his own abiding love of music. His wit and insight, coupled with strong business savvy, made him a natural for the work. Now, he is going on to KPIX-TV, assuming the important post of Community and Public Relations Director.

The San Francisco Symphony is known as a class act by everyone in the business, due in no small way to people like David.

Reagan Gets It Up, Tomlin Brings House Down

Much has been written about the sexual implications of the Strategic Defense Initiative (SDI, or "Star Wars"), Reagan's last gasp of virility as he tries to get it up higher and keep it up longer than the Russians. *Star Wars: A Search for Security* shows how limp his arguments are.

As narrator Ed Begley, Jr. promises, speakers are heard on both sides of the issue, but basically proponents of SDI advance their arguments and opponents shoot them down. To call this a "balanced" presentation (which no one does) is analogous to saying building a perfect defense system is as easy as flying to the moon, which breaks down when it's pointed out that the moon isn't dodging or fighting back.

When it's admitted the proposed defense might only be 95 percent effective, Dr. H. Jack Geiger, president of Physicians for Social Responsibility (PSR), demonstrates an umbrella with holes cut out representing five percent of its surface — obviously worthless against the rain.

Begley sums up the message of this 29-minute call to action: "Does our best hope for the future lie in the heavens, or in the steps we must take here on earth?"

Star Wars: A Search for Security premieres Saturday night, Feb. 28, at the Palace of Fine Arts with speakers and festivities. Tickets are \$7.50 at the door, \$5 in advance from PSR (845-8395) or the S.F. Nuclear Freeze (621-0858).

BEFORE, DURING AND AFTER

It's been asked why we need nukes when we have Stallone and Chuck Norris to defend us. Now add Fred Dryer, TV's *Hunter*, to the list. He owes Sly and Chuck one in return for the plot he borrowed for his bigscreen debut, *Death before Dishonor*.

The setting is "Jemal," a mid-east country at war with Israel, where Sgt. Dryer, Col. Brian Keith, and a few good men are stationed as "observers." Terrorists kidnap Keith to try to force a prisoner exchange. Once the U.S. has stuck its nose far enough into the other country's affairs to get it bitten off, even by-the-book ambassador Paul Winfield can't stop Dryer from getting mad and even.

The outcome is never in doubt and there are only minor surprises along the way, but from Dryer on down, the casting director had an eye for talent. The men and boys are mostly above-average looking for a macho action flick, and the S/M crowd will appreciate the initiation ritual into the Brotherhood of the Gold Wing. (Alhambra, Alexandria, Empire, Century Plaza)

ABORIGINAL SIN

Like national pride, self pride can be carried to dangerous extremes. Trilby (Kristina Nehm), the heroine of *The Fringe Dwellers*, is an aboriginal teenager with yuppie ambitions. She's determined to succeed on her own, and won't accept help any more than she will the poverty and oppression which are her natural lot. She doesn't oppose racism so much as try to ignore it. "What do you mean, my peo-

ple?" she asks the white school principal. "We're all Australian, ain't we?"

Perhaps Trilby's stubborn independence reminded me too much of my own, but I found her difficult to root for and impossible to warm to as the focal point of the story. It's not your color, honey, it's your attitude. Even so, *The Fringe Dwellers* offers plenty of peripheral pluses, including the chance to compare Australian racism with our own. This Trilby's Svengali, director and co-adaptor Bruce Beresford, had wanted to make the film since having his own consciousness raised by the novel some years ago. He worked it in between trips abroad to do *King David* and *Crimes of the Heart*.

When a supportive white teacher encourages Trilby's artistic younger brother, showing him a book of paintings and the black man who painted them, the boy's face says more about black pride than anything else I've seen this Black History Month. (Kabuki)

TOMLIN SENSE

Ninety minutes of Lily Tomlin is a treat in any medium. If they gave acting awards for documentary films she would stand the best chance of winning of anyone since Edith Bouvier Beale in *Grey Gardens*.

It's not my place to speculate on anyone's sexuality, but I dare say lesbians will find someone to identify with in *Lily Tomlin*, produced and directed by Nicholas Broomfield and Joan Churchill, which will make you feel "a rush of positive woman energy."

The film includes a mini-retrospective of the star's career — TV appearances as Ernestine, Edith Ann, and company, plus the monologue that won her a spot on *Laugh-In*; but the focus is on the development of Jane Wagner's Broadway hit *The Search for Signs of Intelligent Life in the Universe*. The filmmakers went along as Tomlin road-tested the material.

The movie makes a great trailer for the show, and vice versa, with neither quite preparing you for the other. I can't imagine anyone — unless for some strange reason they don't appreciate Tomlin — seeing either one without wanting to see the other.

Because the creative process is hard to photograph, this unusual documentary is much longer on entertainment than information. You may not learn as much as you'd like about Jane and Lily and how they function together, but you'll have a good time in the company of a great artist, and that's enough for most people. (Castro)

BEYOND REDEMPTION

The first date between Jeff Goldblum and Julie Hagerty starts off badly when he mentions "my male lover Bob... I swing both ways," and she tells him, "I hate gay people." They get past that hurdle, but instead of ending up in bed together they throw water on each other and repair to the couches of their respective psychiatrists, Glenda Jackson and Tom Conti.

If that sounds like a promising beginning for *Beyond Therapy*, I must be telling it better than Christopher Durang wrote it in his play and helped director Robert Altman adapt it for the

screen, intercutting and introducing groups of people to create an illusion of franticness. The print looks washed-out, the sets and costumes could make you puke, and the setting is a schizophrenic amalgam of Paris and New York that makes no sense.

Back in the story: Jeff cures Julie of her homophobia. She decides homosexuals make better lovers and Tom, her former lover, calls her a fag hag. Goldblum and Hagerty are not at their best, Jackson and Conti are ludicrous, the last sounding like an Italian version of Inspector Clouseau. Christopher Guest plays Jeff's lover. Their two brief hugs in the play have been cut. Cris Campion, who debuted in *Pirates*, plays a waiter who may be gay.

Altman is not homophobic and I've always presumed Durang was gay, but the only laughs in this tawdry fiasco, which is generally unfunny and frequently offensive, are at the expense of gays. It marks a new low in Altman's career and an embarrassment for all concerned.

At this rate, I'll have my Ten Worst list for the year filled up by April. (Presidio)

FLAMENCO HEAT

Though touted as a dance film, the finale of Carlos Saura's flamenco trilogy (*Blood Wedding*, *Carmen*, *El Amor Brujo*) is more like an old Hollywood musical — a thin story linking a lot of songs and dances.

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Terrorists — Kasey Walker confronts Fred Dryer in *Death before Dishonor*

Saura begins by establishing his soundstage, then immersing us in the life of a gypsy village constructed on it, all in one cinematic shot. As children play, the fathers of Candela and Jose arrange their marriage as Carmelo looks on helplessly.

Suddenly they're grown — well into middle age, actually, as Saura didn't consider age in his casting. Carmelo (Antonio Gades) still loves Candela (Cristina

Hoyos), but she marries José (Juan Antonio Jimenez), who is more interested in Lucia (Laura del Sol). José is killed in a fight and the innocent Carmelo spends four years in jail for it. He returns to woo Candela, but José's ghost stands in his way.

The dances, often truncated for short attention spans, are full of the sensuality some saw in *Tango Argentino*. The "hit" (Continued on page 38)

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Mr. Marcus

And The Winner Is. . .

Don't look now, but we are in the middle of Envelope Opening Week. It all started last Thursday when the Mr. January '88 Bare Chest contest got underway at the SF-Eagle with some half dozen robust dudes vying for the AIDS Fund benefit calendar.

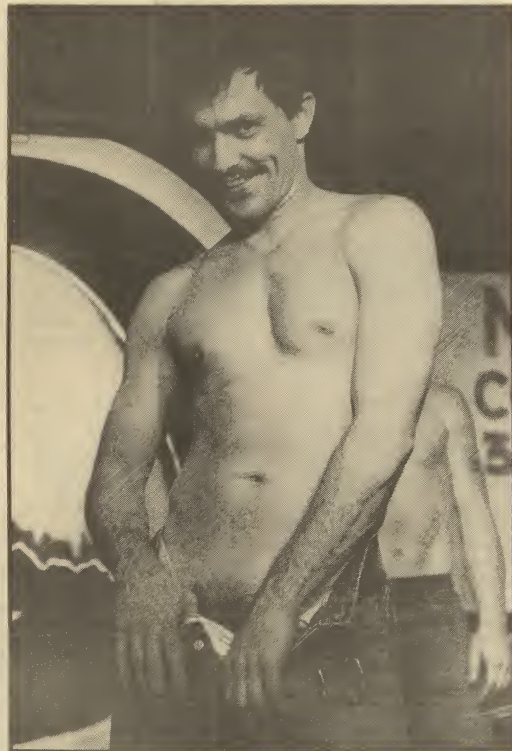
Two of the contestants were visiting from out of town. There was that hot Portuguese Ron Nasuti from Woonsocket, RI who had this foot fetish, and a young stud from Knoxville, TN who just barely came out a month ago. How anyone who's just been out 30 days got into that contest is beyond explanation! When the judges and the MC got through with him, he may have been fresh meat, but he was all chopped up!

In the end, a newly returned former resident, Don, won out, and the crowd went home with aching stomachs. There will be another contest tonight, Feb. 26, to name Mr. February 1988, so if your tits are worth prize money, by all means get pumped up and come down around 2200 to show them. Ron Nasuti flew back to Woonsocket last Saturday, but if his plans come to fruition (love that word!), he may be back as a permanent resident. Ooooh baby!

A clip of *Dildo: The Movie* was shown right after the contest and when the new visiting Empress Cha Cha of Seattle walked in with Mr. Gay Seattle, they both suffered culture shock.

Her Holiness Cha Cha met a hot number Friday night, and although I'll never know what transpired in the royal bedchamber, by Saturday night's coronation, the hot number was draped in one of Cha Cha's gowns and refused to give it back after the festivities!

Next to George Dudley, the



Don, Mr. January on the 1988 Bare Chest calendar
(Photo: R. Pruzan)

emperor-elect of New York City, Ms. Cha Cha (only one week in office) charmed all the other courts.

The Los Angeles court absolutely pee'd too with their Aztec entrance; how many mother hens were mourning the loss of their feathers in Petaluma was undetermined. Now I know why they are always raising money for their court costumes, and the entire

populace of L.A. is up in arms!

Of course, San Francisco isn't far behind; all weekend, mutterings were heard throughout the realm about the huge amount of money spent this year on the campaigns. And right about now, one of the dowager empresses is getting singed on the royal carpet for admittedly passing out \$2 to down and outers to vote. Sorry
(Continued on next page)



Mark Friese and Mr. Marcus at the Coronation

(Photo: S. Martin)



San Diego Empress Nicole shares the spotlight with Emperor-Elect I of New York City George Dudley (Photo: Marcus)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)

about last week's report in this column saying it was \$4. Will I ever be forgiven? Do I really care?

Saturday night, the proudest person in the Giftcenter Pavilion just had to be John Paul Scott. The stage set for the Legends, Myths & Magic coronation was absolutely flawless! (Are you reading this Mr. Tits and Bubbles?) In support of a candid statement by one extremely leathery dude: "The main thing they should be selling here is No-Doze!" some 35 out-of-town courts paraded across the short runway to pay homage to the reign of Matthew and Sable. At least you could hear all the MCs this year.

Emperor-elect George Dudley of New York was promoting the \$250 per person tickets to the 1st NY Coronation next month at the Waldorf-Astoria under the watch-

ful eye of Empress Nicole the Great of San Diego. She had some extremely young stud in tow dressed like the Phillip Morris boy who touted cigarettes of the same name. I had a ball most of the evening with Gladys Bumps giving me the eye every time we caught something funny!

In the end, (it was almost predictable) the 15th emperor was announced as Patrick McGonigle and the 22nd empress is Tina Tanner. To show you how bitter this year's campaign was, as the crown of state was hovering over the two new monarchs and the Widow Norton was adlibbing the Oath of Office, a distinctly clear voice resounded throughout the hushed hall: "How much did the crown cost you, Tina?" While everyone acted like they didn't hear it, hopefully, sour grapes will take a hike and the losers as well as the winners will work together in unity and harmony to make the royalty clan productive and beneficial to all elements of

this community.

It's a tired word, unity; but how were wars won, beneficial works accomplished, suppressive legislation defeated, and gay politicians elected if not because of unity? As in every setback mankind has endured throughout the ages, remember, it only hurts for a little while.

Sunday, they were hoisting the goblets to the new monarchs at the royal brunch while just a few blocks away, Up Your Alley productions was conducting their Sho'Nuff Shrimp and Crawfish beer bust at the SF Eagle. Since

the Widow Norton's balloon was again grounded for her going away, she showed up at the Mardi Gras party at the Eagle and crowned Sister Blanche and Miguel, Queen and King of the Mardi Gras. This ceremony in no way interfered with the Widow's strong penchant for groping young dudes! It was a heavy week all around, but this coming weekend will prove just as trenchant for the circuit commandoes. But read on, honeybunches, read on, if you dare.

Just about now, everyone's getting ready for the weekend onslaught. The annual

Bartenders Bash at the Troc was well attended on Tuesday night. Wednesday night, another horde was celebrating Pete Pettine's birthday at the Warehouse, hosted by Michelle, Sir! I don't know how Michelle afforded that soiree. She's lost so much weight, she had to make a major investment in a new wardrobe; being the party girl she is, Michelle was bubbling all over the place. I just loved it!

Tonight, they'll be naming Mr. February '88 Bare Chest at the SF-Eagle. Friday, the Constantines M/C Mix N Match party is

(Continued on next page)

9 1/2
9 1/2
9 1/2

feel things
you may not
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that are both
exhilarating and
disturbing.

9 1/2
9 1/2

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Empress I Jose, more regal after all these years (Photo: R. Pruzan)



The Widow Norton bids farewell to Empress Tina Tanner and Emperor Patrick McGonigle
(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlène)

Marcus

(Continued from previous page)
at the Shotwell St. Clubhouse from 2000 to 2300 for a \$6 ducat.

Saturday night the Warlocks M/C host their annual cocktail party just before the Motorcycle Awards by invitation, and across town, the coveted Cable Car Awards and Show will unfold at the Giftcenter Pavilion. While all the expensive seats and tables are almost sold out, there are still plenty of \$10 Standing Room Only tickets left.

This Friday night, Supervisor Harry Britt will be campaigning at the SF-Eagle with a \$10 beer bust. The Blazing Redheads will be there as a preview before their appearance Saturday at the Cable Cars.

Former Empress XII Jane Doe will arrive in town for a week on Wednesday, March 4, and the Mr. July 1988 Fun Buns Contest at the Endup will be on Thursday, March 5.

Any day now, People Magazine will publish a special article on our own Rita Rockett, who al-

ready had a very nice write-up in Glamour Magazine.

Sunday, March 1, the Gay Men's Chorus takes over the patio at the SF-Eagle for a beer bust with lots of fun prizes and Men About Town. A scooplet, of sorts: two chorus members will be doing some very heavy-duty drag impersonations in support of their March 5 concert at Davies Hall with Charles Pierce and Barbara Cook — should be a hoot. The (fake) Lady DiFi may make an appearance, but I promised Gary Garrison I wouldn't

spill the beans!

Hey, the guys up in Sonoma County are real busy helping with the AIDS crisis in that area. Sunday, March 8, they're having a big benefit at the Santa Rosa Inn with entertainment, an auction, and loads of fun. Veterans C.A.R.E. and the Inn are co-sponsoring the party for Face-to-Face, the organization similar to our AIDS Emergency Fund. The door prize is a round-trip ticket to Hawaii for two for seven days! The tickets are only \$5, so hope to see all of you there too!

'It's confirmed: Mistress Kathy and Ms. Leather of SF Shadow Morton have been added to the judging panel for Mr. Leather of SF'

TO DISH OR NOT TO DISH, THAT IS . . . OH HELL LET'S DISH!

In answer to all your questions, Glenn Terrio is not, repeat not, divorced from his new D.O.D. Got that "Stel"? With Sukker's Likkers on Polk closing any day now, Mark Austin has nothing but time on his hands so has decided to jump into the race for empress next year! Funny name for an empress, Austinetta; do Phoebe Planters and Ms. Peckerhead know about this? Hell, the crown is nearly warmed up on Tina's head!

One of the biggest benefits to hit this town for the GSL and the AIDS Emergency Fund will take place Sunday, June 16, at six, repeat six, bars with Jerry Pepper and Leather Daddy's Boy James Buhler at the helm. Watch this column for exclusive details. And you can pump up your arms in

anticipation of the SF Jacks 4th Anniversary March 30. This is ample notice for all you arm jockeys to make a good spouting at the event. More on that later too.

Those porno videos I've been telling you about from Le Salon are available at their store on Polk, or if you're shy and want to charge to your credit card(s) by phone, call (800) 227-3477. You out of staters can call (800) 227-3444! Check out their new release, *Pleasure Peak*, while you're ordering!

Allen White has been bugging me to death for a plug on the Campus Theatre; since they've hired Danny (Short Stuff) Williams as their permanent MC, they hope to make Campus an all-around entertainment center for the upwardly mobile and downwardly inclined males of this city. They have all sorts of extravaganzas planned; for now, their initiation parties for new members are not to be believed, and if you've ever pledged a fraternity, you'll know what I mean, only this one is raunchier.

It's confirmed: Mistress Kathy and Ms. Leather of SF Shadow Morton have been added to the judging panel for Mr. Leather of SF beginning at the Eagle on Wed., Mar. 18.

Don't forget the Cheaters M/C Toga Party March 13 (Friday) and if we must have another title, why not Caligula? This sounds like fun! How jaded can you get to win? The Amateur Physique competition at the Toga Party would discourage all gym members I suppose, and there should be plenty of those in the area that night!

Well boys and girls, drag queens, macho men, political mavens, Britt Supporters, Pelosi Supporters, et al, time to bring this to a resounding close. If I offended anyone I cannot apologize. As Randy Johnson has said a thousand times: What goes around comes around. So there. Keep your legs crossed, contribute to all worthy charities, don't fight, Unite! and remember: There is no worse lie than a truth misunderstood by those who hear it. Thanks, Matthew and Sable, for a good year and good luck to Tina and Patrick.

HARD AND JUICY



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Not 'only in San Francisco' but most likely
(Photo: R. Pruzan)

Mark Friese

Kind Hearts & Coronations



Sable Clown at the Coronation

(Photo: S. Martin)

A weekend jaunt to Puerto Vallarta, Tahoe, and even Hawaii were the offers that poured in for this past weekend but I, being the aficionado of glamour I am, opted for Coronation '87 and the wonders that would surely unfold at this year's gala.

Now for those of you who are not acquainted with the hoopla connected with this type of event, you should know it is all about an Emperor and Empress stepping down, and their successors stepping up. This year found Matthew and Sable stepping down, after a very successful year, and Patrick and Tina stepping up to find what lies ahead for them in jobs which their performances in will constantly have the opinions, and criticisms of some people, right outside the door. Good luck in your year, hopefully you will both be surrounded with supporters who will not have to be reminded that it is your year!

It is not an impossible task to have a swell time at these events, and after I found a fairly safe place to stash my coat I proceeded to roam amongst old friends and new faces, both of whom you don't see that often and which kept me from falling prey to the boredom which can be associated with the necessary routine of introductions. So let's face it, I had a few laughs, met some new people, had some libations, and totally enjoyed myself.

Wanting to call Ginger in the

near future I asked her if her number was still the same, to which she replied "yes it's still 14." Empress Nicole decided one of Sable's costumes was "colorful," and once again it would have been nice to have carried a tape recorder for some of the other amusing and catty remarks that flew around the room. Now I'm sure you think I made the right decision when I chose Coronation over those other weekend spots, don't you?

Naturally the fun never stops, and last Tuesday saw yet another reason for many to stay out past their bedtimes. The Trocadero Bartenders Bash was, to say the least, a lively affair for all in attendance. Robbie Leslie spun out his "keep'm dancing" music that has been delighting the Saturday night crowds for the past several weeks. Watch for more special events coming up at the Troc including the White Party, and also their next Friday evening Tea Dance March 13.

This Friday evening Supervisor John Molinari and Patrick Toner, in association with many other notables, will host a beer bust at the S.F. Eagle starting at 8 p.m. as a benefit for Harry Britt's campaign for Congress. This event will feature The Blazing Redheads and Miss Kitty and the Cycle Souls with admission being \$10 and going to help us all make some more history.

Saturday evening will find many of the same people at the Giftcenter once again for the

Cable Car Awards, which promises some great entertainment as well as a few surprises. Some tickets are still available at Headlines.

Saturday evening will also be the Barbary Coasters Awards which will be held at Showfolks Hall, 827 Hyde, with the doors opening at 6 p.m. and the show starting at 8 p.m. Somehow two hours of pre-show cocktails might be a bit long, although it seems fine to me.

Out-of-town guests coming to visit? Why not check out the Pensione Hotel at 1668 Market St. as their accommodations are lovely and it is convenient for all parts of the city, so try it, you'll like it.

The last Tavern Guild meeting was held at the Spoiled Brat in Hayward and they put on quite an

impressive spread including barbecued steaks and baked potatoes, and it was certainly one of the nicest lunches in a while. While there I ran into Ed Paulson who wanted to express his thanks to all the individuals and businesses that participated in his auction last December. They raised \$10,000 for their AIDS food bank, and as usual Ed is working on his next fundraiser. The next Tavern Guild meeting will be this Tuesday at 2 p.m. at Sutter's Mill and Harry, Metz, and Tim are planning something special for this one.

To the New Bell he was always "Our Joe" and to all of us it won't be the same without his smile and good-natured sense of humor. Joe Gallagher passed away last weekend of a heart attack. We will always have our

"5000" games but they won't be the same.

Charles Pierce, The San Francisco Gay Men's Chorus, and a special appearance by Barbara Cook is the line-up for the Davies Symphony Hall Thursday, March 5, as a benefit for Golden Gate Performing Arts. The evening starts at 8 p.m. and tickets range from \$10 to \$45 and are available at the Symphony Hall, Golden Gate Performing Arts 864-0326, or BASS/Ticketron outlets. This is their season opener, and it looks like a biggie!

I better start thinking about what to do when I turn 31 this Sunday. Of course all the weekend getaways will be nowhere to be found, so I am left to my own devices, which in the past haven't failed me!

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The Denver delegation at the Coronation

(Photo: Rink)

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—Erica Jong,
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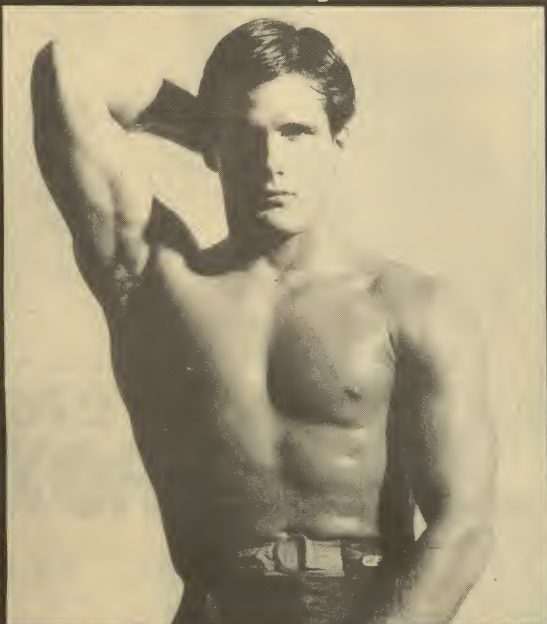
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**Gay Men's
Sketch Class**

Painter David Ross and photographer Mark I. Chester announce the start of a Gay Men's Sketch Class. The open drawing class will meet every first and third Tuesday from 7 to 10 p.m. starting Tuesday, March 3, in a South of Market flat. Suggested donation on a sliding scale from free to \$15 per class. Model for the first class will be erotic artist Scott O'Hara.

The class is open to gay men of any skill level with a healthy interest in sketching the male body. Participants should bring their own materials and comfortable clothes. The class itself will be a tobacco-free environment. Space is limited, so call Mark at 621-6294 for information. We are also interested in contacting men who want to model for this class. No experience necessary.

**Ecumenical AIDS
Healing Service**

The AIDS InterFaith Network, in cooperation with The Parsonage, the Episcopal Diocese of California, and Grace Cathedral, announces the 24th in a series of Ecumenical AIDS Healing services to be held at Grace Cathedral on Monday, March 2, at 6:30 p.m.

Atari ST Users Group

An Atari ST users group is now forming. A meeting will be held Thursday, Feb. 26, at 7:30 p.m. at 411 Divisadero. There is no need to own your own Atari ST, just a sincere interest in them. A name for our group will be chosen, followed by special interest groups for MIDI and beginners. For more information call 861-5327.

**AIDS-Related Grief
Workshop**

Lynn Ireland, PhD, MFCC, will lead a workshop entitled *Learning to Live with the Loss of a Loved One* at Live Oak School, 117 Diamond St., from 9 a.m. to 12:45 p.m. this Saturday. The workshop is intended both for persons who have experienced (or anticipate) the death of a loved one, and for persons who want to better understand how to help someone else cope with the death of a loved one. Lynn was formerly volunteer director at San Francisco Suicide Prevention, and has worked with a variety of grief support groups. She holds a doctorate from the California Institute of Integral Studies. The program is sponsored by the Dignity AIDS/ARC Ministry.

Beer Bust For Britt

Supervisor John Molinari will host a special beer bust at the San Francisco Eagle Friday, Feb. 27, from 8 p.m. to midnight to benefit the Harry Britt for Congress campaign. Special guests include The Blazing Redheads and Ms. Kitty and the Cycle Soul Blues. Admission is \$10.

New Friends

A group is forming of people with AIDS to assist people newly diagnosed with AIDS. A get-acquainted meeting will be held Sunday, March 1, at Trinity Episcopal Church, 668 Bush St., at 3 p.m. Call Larry Canega at 864-4570 for more information.

Auditions

Auditions for a production of *Once Upon a Mattress* will be held March 1 from 2 to 5 p.m. at the California Club, 1750 Clay St. The show will be directed by Chuck Largent and is being produced by Ilene Mac Adam with Encore Productions Presents City Players (a theatrical experience). Bring photo and music. There will be a sliding pay scale. Call 824-7833, 431-1428, or (408) 866-2578 for more information.

Live On Stage

Todd Thorson will appear at the Nob Hill Cinema through March 3.

Thorson will make his film debut in the soon-to-be-released *A Perfect Score*, a Seabag Production distributed through In-Hand Video. A recent issue of *Inches* magazine also featured Thorson. Most recently he was photographed by M.A.C. Productions for *Playguy* magazine.

Showtimes for Thorson's performances are 12:30 and 8 p.m., with Sunday showtimes at 2 and 8 p.m.

During Thorson's engagement, the Nob Hill Cinema will feature films celebrating young men in action.

The Nob Hill Cinema is located at 729 Bush St. and is open from 10:45 a.m. to midnight. Shows are at 12:30, 5:30, 8, and 10 p.m., Monday through Friday. Saturday showtimes are 12:30, 5:30, 8, 10, and 11 p.m., and Sunday shows are at 2, 5:30, and 8 p.m.

Transamerica!

A show of photographs of the Transamerica building by Paul Sjoberg will be at Castro Photo, 4115 19th St., from March 1 through 31.

Karl's Calendar

THURSDAY 2/26

Bare Chest Contest, S.F. Eagle, 10 p.m.

FRIDAY 2/27

Harry Britt For Congress Beer Bust, S.F. Eagle, 8 p.m. to 12 a.m., \$10, The Blazing Redheads and Miss Kitty and The Cycle Soul Blues, hosts Supervisor John Molinari and Patrick Toner.

Constantines Mix-N-Match Party, 260 Shotwell St., 8-11 p.m., \$6 advance, \$7 at the door.

SATURDAY 2/28

Barbary Coasters Awards, Showfolks of America Hall (827 Hyde St.), doors open 6 p.m., show starts 8 p.m., tickets \$10 in advance, \$12 at the door.

Cable Car Awards and Show, Giftcenter Pavilion, 8 p.m., SRO tickets \$10.

SUNDAY 3/1

Gay Men's Chorus Beer Bust, S.F. Eagle 3-6 p.m., \$7.

Compiled by Diedre

Women in Leather



Ms. Leather of SF Shadow Morton in competition

(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

by Joy Schulenburg

My friend Bev is into something she calls "feather leather." She explains this picturesque term, saying, "I like the look and smell of leather. I like the way it feels against my skin. But I don't consider myself very butch, I don't ride a motorcycle, and I'm definitely not into S/M. Those are heavy leather and I'm not heavy, so it's 'feather leather.'"

Bev and others like her probably constitute the majority of women, both gay and straight, who deliberately wear leather as a part of their every day life. It is difficult to define them by lifestyle or sexual preference. They are visible by virtue of their clothing, but their individual identities are obscured by the more common stereotypes, the "heavy leather" images that Bev described so concisely.

You don't have to own a Harley or be into bondage to wear leather. In fact, many San Francisco leatherwomen are quick to point out that the majority of bike dykes and S/M practitioners don't have a leather lifestyle. Still, the stereotypes die hard. And, like most stereotypes, there is an element of truth in the roles associated with the image. Those who are most at risk are willing to risk the most. Women and men who identify strongly with the very things that make them different, are often the leaders in the push for social change. It was, after all, a group of drag queens who started the Stonewall Rebellion.

Today, drag queens are a minority in the gay community. They are often denied respect for their historical role in our movement. In the same vein, pioneers in the women's leather community often came from the bike clubs and support groups such as Samois and the Society of Janus. Those who like the trappings but not the lifestyle frequently try to obscure this fact, presumably to avoid the taint of association. When the television cameras roll, many people would like to put the people in black leather in the back row with the men in sequins and feathers. But, like the drag queens, the leather community has refused to be pushed back. And, increasingly, it is leatherwomen who are demanding the right to visibility.

"Keep in mind that what you are looking for is not necessarily the prettiest face or the best body, but rather the woman who best exemplifies an ideal Leatherwoman to you: someone whose poise and self-assurance, whose very presence is imbued with a special and unidentifiable quality we recognize as "leather." (From the Judging Procedures for International Ms. Leather Competition.)

She turns heads as she enters the bar. Moving gracefully through the crowded room, she leaves a ripple of whispers in her wake; some are admiring, some hostile, some merely curious. She is a small woman, neither famous nor particularly beautiful; what is it then that incites so much attention? Probably it is her outfit: body-hugging pants and jacket, blunt-toed boots and a

visor cap all in sleek, black leather. Perhaps it is the assurance of her manner that draws the women's eyes. She walks with a hint of a swagger, her head high under the leather cap. She knows she looks good. She is proud of the attention she is receiving. To her it means progress—both for herself and her community.

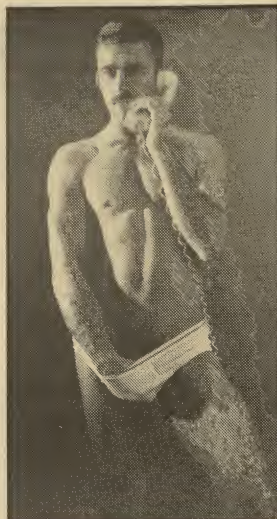
"Ten years ago it just wasn't socially acceptable to be into leather if you were a lesbian," claims one woman who recently "came out" into the leather community. "A leather jacket, sure, but chaps, boots, caps, the rest of the paraphernalia—forget it! It branded you as a certain kind of person. In a lot of people's minds there was an association between leather and violence and you got a lot of shit for it—no matter what you were really into. That's been changing over the last few years."

Helen Ruvelas agrees with this assessment that the women's community has changed its attitude towards leather. But Ruvelas, this year's Lesbian/Gay Freedom Day Parade Co-Chair, also adds, "Some of my friends are still uncomfortable about my wearing leather. They're concerned that people will make negative assumptions about it and that it will reflect on them by association." On the other hand, support often comes from unexpected directions. "My daughter thinks it's great. She says that I look better in leather than in anything else." In addition to her parade responsibilities, Ruvelas has taken on the role of Financial Director for the International

(Continued on next page)



Second runner-up in the Ms. Leather SF contest Hiroko Stevens (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)



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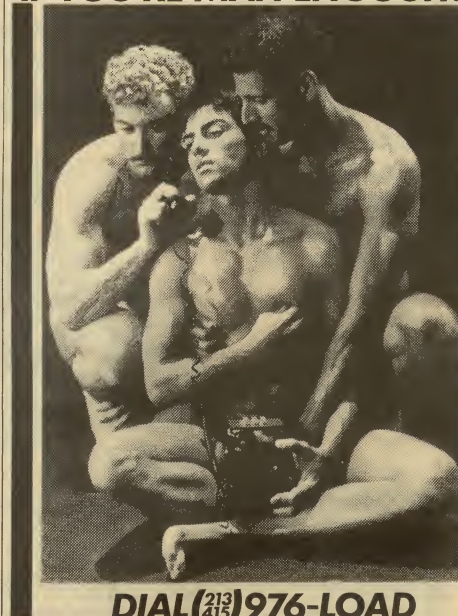
UPSTAIRS



People who fight fire with fire usually end up with ashes.

—Abigail Van Buren, 1974

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Heymont

(Continued from page 30)

which words and ideas are used in different cultures, George Coates' *Rare Area* constituted an exploration of indistinct sounds and visions. With music by Marc Ream, costumes by Cynthia Du Val, and sets and scenic projections by Jerome Sirlin, *Rare Area* felt like an updated hippie light show wherein the music was sung rather than screamed and the lighting effects were enhanced by computer technology that was both unavailable and politically suspect at the peak of the Haight-Ashbury's drug culture.

'It was also interesting to note how Native American tenor White Eagle . . . sounded absolutely magnificent when miked.'

Although barely an hour and a half long, I found *Rare Area* to be intensely satisfying as a musical light show; the kind of experience where you can let your senses be entertained without feeling any need to ask probing questions or measure the "effectiveness" of the work. From a technical standpoint, I found the event fascinating, particularly with regard to the use of Levelor-

style blinds as a variable scenic element. It was also interesting to note how Native American tenor White Eagle — whose voice seemed painfully thin and under-sized during the Merola Opera Program's Grand Finals two years ago — sounded absolutely magnificent when miked. Kathryn Neale's healthy soprano voice, Hitomi Ikuma's pantomime, and Sean Kilcoyne's acting offered solid contributions to *Rare Area*.

While I wish there were words to describe the sensations I felt during George Coates' performance piece, I suspect *Rare Area* belongs to a form of experiential theater where the best way to find out about it is to sit through it yourself. For readers who have not yet experienced *Rare Area*, I'd strongly urge doing so next time the work is presented in the Bay Area.

I should note that the radio ads for *Rare Area*'s recent string of performances were particularly fascinating to me. Although some were broadcast to KKHI's classical audience, the ads were primarily targeted to an audience of the curious, the avant garde, and listeners who are usually rather suspicious of mainline arts presentations. The marketing concept behind these ads seemed to pay off handsomely for, at the performance I attended in Herbst Theatre, the audience was easily half the age of the crowd which usually congregates in the lobby of the War Memorial Opera House.

Warren

(Continued from page 31)

"Ritual Fire Dance" needs a wider screen to capture the range of the Gades/Saura choreography. Like Fred Astaire, the actors are never quite *not* dancing; but even with numerous additions to Manuel de Falla's original score, this is not just a ballet by any means. It's gypsy passion, Spanish folklore, love and death to a flamenco beat.

You could call it a sequel to *Absolute Beginners* — *Absolute Masters*. (Bridge)

FIRST FEST FATES

Today's announcement of the schedule for the 30th San Francisco International Film Festival

is expected to include at least three major films of particular interest to gays. At this point we can only name Rosa von Praunheim's *A Virus Respects No Morals*, which will be shown March 20 in a benefit for Shanti Project. The outrageous gay German activist/filmmaker will appear at the screening of his film.

'The outrageous gay German activist/filmmaker will appear at the screening of his film.'

This year's festival runs March 25-April 5 at the Kabuki and Palace of Fine Arts. Tickets go on sale Sunday. Call 221-FILM for updated information.

Leatherwomen

(Continued from previous page)

Ms. Leather competition.

Ms. San Francisco Leather. No other single event has had an impact on local awareness that there is a women's leather community as strongly or as enticingly as the January precursor to the international competition. In previous years, two other women were awarded the title—Tattoo Blue at the Folsom St. Fair and Rachel Williams at a competition sponsored by Samois. Never before, however, had such a varied and enthusiastic crowd cheered on the proceedings as took place at the High Chapparral when Shadow Morton was voted Ms. San Francisco Leather for 1987. To the producers, the sold-out tickets meant substantial funds for AIDS charities. To Morton, the title means the opportunity to represent San Francisco in the March International competition as well as at fundraisers and events throughout the year. For the hundreds of attendees, representing the gamut of leather and non-leather persuasions, the competition was a validation. Watching the five contestants proudly parading their leather identities on stage, it was clear that the San Francisco women's leather community had finally, irrefutably, come out.

Del Martin: Dr. of Sexology

Del Martin, veteran activist in the gay, women's and domestic violence movements, has received the first honorary doctorate in sexology given to a woman. The honorary degree was conferred by The Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality at a ceremony and celebration Feb. 18.

Martin, who currently serves as chair of Mayor Dianne Feinstein's Women's Advisory Committee, is co-author of the classic book *Lesbian/Woman* and author of *Battered Wives*, the book which sparked the domestic violence movement.

The Institute for Advanced Study of Human Sexuality, entering its 11th year in San Francisco, is a graduate school of sexology.



Ms. SF Leather Shadow Morton greets former Empress Sable Clown and former Emperor Matt Brown (Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

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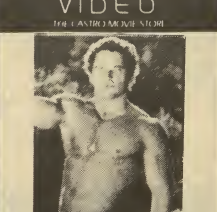
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Sensual, Caring Massage
JIM 864-5483 E9

The best massage of your life by a caring, handsome man. Certified, 6 years experience. PWAs welcome. Bill 626-6210. E9

Deep soothing massage by handsome yng professional. Richard 563-4363 2 til 10 E9

Nurturing Sensual Massage
Non-sexual. PWA's Welcome.
75 min \$25 Marc 863-1765 E9

YOU'LL MELT!

In the Castro. Certified.
75 min. \$30. Jim 864-2430 E9

Special - Boy Scout Massage
BE PREPARED!
821-2351 Max \$30/90 min. E9

Caring Mature Blk Masseur
Hung Uncut Sensuous 6ft 179
Mr. G \$30 hr 621-3319 40 yrs E9

Alex, 861-1362
A warm & loving masseur. A slow, deep & sensual massage. In/out. Anytime. E9

Swedish massage with you in mind. Bill. 673-5310. E9

A warm massage for hot men!
641-9426 E9



VISIT HEAVEN!
S.F.'s FAMOUS DOUBLE (OR SINGLE)
SENSUAL MASSAGE

* WARM * FRIENDLY * PROFESSIONAL * GUARANTEED *
* EXCELLENT FACILITIES * REASONABLE RATES *
* TOTAL ECSTASY * TOTALLY HEALTHY SAFE *

MIKE & JEFF 567-2345

the husband of my trip to San Francisco

feels like you really care

If you could bottle it you'd make a fortune

1000 times better than any other massage I've ever had

I thank you both it was heaven

TRAVEL AGENT
CHEF
FILM MAKER
CRUISE SHIP EXECUTIVE
BODYBUILDER

I PROMISE YOU ONE OF THE BEST MASSAGES OF YOUR LIFE



Sensual Swedish professional-quality
athletes massage. Satisfaction guaranteed.

SPECIAL:

A free VHS videotape with each massage.

75 min. massage \$45 In/\$65 Out

2 hr. massage \$65 In/\$80 Out

Reduce Stress Increase Vibrancy



JOE (415) 552-0645
Certified Massage Therapist
NON-SEXUAL • \$35/90 MIN. • BY APPT. ONLY

B.A.R. PEOPLE & PERSONALS

Massage

HOT LATIN MASSAGE

25 in 35 out treat yourself
Anthony 648-7957 E10

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A great way to let go of tension.
Terry 845-9529 E10

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New masseur wants practice on young goodlooking guys with hot buns. Gary 621-3034. E9

Sensual massage blind swimmer
Rick \$50 out 431-4859 E9

Do you love being touched?
Try Swedish massage in my experienced hands. Bill 673-5310 E9

Sensitive, Loving Massage.
Michael 673-7253 E9

Sensual, nurturing, great massage...Gary: 821-1005
You're in good hands!! E9

Masculine
Anxious to please
Sensitive
Strong
Affordable
Goodlooking
Energetic

Randy and/or Dex
552-8274



*massage
by martin*
431-6965

NORWEGIAN JOCK

DON, 30 yrs. old, goodlooking, warm personalized massage.
I massage in the nude.
Nob Hill, 1 hr. \$35/in. 24 hrs.
752-1514
Quality Massage!

\$20 SPECIAL

Hot Oil, Full Body, 1 Hour
Above Castro, Larry 621-8560 E14

★ SAN JOSE ★

Massage, Cert. Out calls only.
Night calls OK (408) 354-2124 E14

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Massage \$25 Seth 863-6795 E12

Expert Nonsexual Massage
2 hrs/\$35 PWAs - sliding scale
Neil Lasky 647-0591 E11



Full Body Massage
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Massage

Renew Yourself — Deep, Prof. Massage



Certified, 10 Yrs. Exp.
NON-SEXUAL • OUTCALL OK • \$45
BRUCE 661-1184

SOOTHING MASSAGE

Swedish Esalen \$30/90 min.
John 386-0152 Certified E9

Sensual, Complete Massage
by short, hot bodybuilder. Relax
with Philip, 864-5566 E9

Goodlooking Asian Masseuse
Call 387-4993 for Johnson E10

Oriental Masseuse
Young, Athletic 921-0870 E10

Fullbody Massage given by
except. handsome young guy.
Very clean cut & discreet.
Call Luke 731-8742 E10

TRIP TO ECSTASY!

Full body massage by hot man 6'
160# brn/brn - moust. Let my
hands take you where you want
to go! Call Russ 11am-12 mid. Out
only. 647-0944 \$60 MC/VISA-
Cash E9



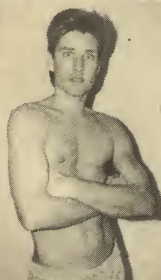
SWEDISH/SHIATSU MASSEUR
SPECIALIZING IN THERAPY
FOR ATHLETES. CERTIFIED.
AVAILABLE NOW!
CALL RICH 641-5045

Erotic Sensual Massage
Loving hands to revive mind,
body, soul. GWM, 32, 5'11",
smooth, energetic. Good 1st
class apt, fireplace. When you
need some TLC. NO B.S. Joe
346-2921. For Men Only. Hayes
Valley. Swedish Esalen. Masculine. E10

Great Massage. Sensual, Nude,
Complete. Jon 776-8413 E10

Swedish, Shiatsu, 1 1/2 hrs.
\$20-in, \$30-out. Nonsexual only.
Paul, 928-6464. Certified. E10

Professional



Swedish Massage
30 In Rich (415) 563-4363

Yng Asian or Latin man are you?
Lay back and get comfy.
I am 31, bisexual butch stud, blonde,
blue, 6', 190, hard defined body
and hung 9", nice chest and arms.
Full body sensual Swedish
Massage in the nude
Totally Private for You.
Not too shy, are you?

RON 776-0472
\$35 in \$50 Out 24 Hrs.

Fantastic Massage by an Old Pro
\$30, Roy 621-1302. E9

NUDE HOT HANDSOME
\$35 550-8616 24 Hours E14

Bondage = Bondage Plus
massage — Like nothing else
Very erotic - Jack - 680-8959 E9

REAL MASSAGE

Complete erotic & sensual
Mike handsome masculine
beautiful nude build, 6'
172, 34 \$50-\$65 863-6947 E9

Bodywork/Sportsmassage
for chronic pain, injuries, stress
mgmt. or just to feel wonderful!
A.M.T.A. member. Jeff Gibson,
L.M.T. 626-7095 \$30 E9

Nude athlete. Massage \$40.
Kevin 285-6542 super time E12

★ Full-Body Shiatsu & Feet Too ★
Relax with a Certified Masseuse
★ Peter 285-6699 Non-Sexual ★ E16

Complete mass. by hndsme guy.
Dwntwn SF 885-1558 Mark 24hr E9

Black masseur w/strong hands.
Licensed Swedish-Shiatsu Ther-
apy. \$50 in. 431-8869 E9

Fun S/M Massage Complete
\$25/\$35 Zolt 415-474-5576 E9

Massage
Todd • 753-5131 E9

Fullbody massage by nude body-
builder, 34, 5'5", 42"c, 16"a.
Older men welcome. Fine body.
\$40 out. Don 441-2584 E12

Relaxing massage by Asian. Cer-
tified. \$40/50 441-2149 E14

Relaxing, sensual, nude massage.
Leo, hung & hot. \$40, 695-1287 E9

Hot Oil Esalen/Shiatsu 1 hr. \$30
Deep tissue 1 1/2 hr. \$40. Com-
plete massage Hal 626-1611 E11

Models & Escorts

★ DONKEY ★

★ ★ DICK ★ ★

No B.S.! Huge, long thick
tool with big, shaved low
hangers swinging heavy
from healthy, hunky body.
31, hot and extremely
handsome, big nipples...
When you want the best.

★ ★ MATT ★ ★

★ (415) 567-5445 ★

Expert Fr/action. Eager blk. Call
Les 863-5702 afternoon E9

HAIRY MAN!

Chuck. 864-2359 E9

slim blond tall safe 35 yo at yr ser-
vice JO + negot. E. Bay 548-1763
out only E9

★ BEAUTIFUL ★

HOT YOUNG BOY - 19
Blond, 6', 160 lbs., 8"
Very European, Sincere
★ Absolutely Safe ★
Relaxed, Versatile, and
Very Attractive
Tired of Hustlers?
Call Me Anytime
CHRISTOPHER
821-9287 E9

MALE STRIPPERS
PRIVATE OR BUSINESS
RICHARD OF S.F. 821-3457

Models & Escorts



239-8419

GQ FACE & BODY

BRIAN/26, 5'10", 160lbs.
24 HOURS—\$75 HR.
RICHARD OF SF 821-3457

SACRAMENTO BOTTOM

Discreet, masculine, hot bottom
for your visits to the Valley. Days
and safe only. Leave name and
phone no. with answering service
for call back. (916) 442-3734
Mark Deeb E9

Hot blind 21 yr boy with 9" sur-
prise smooth chicken body really
hot Chip 922-6322 E9

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Porn model. Bi, Hung, Vers.
Hot verbal school boy from L.A.
Blond, Smth. 24 hrs.
\$60+ Todd 931-8257 E9

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24 HOURS A DAY
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B.J.'s - The Best! E9

BEARDED BODYBUILDER

8" slammer w/full sack
Tom 626-5982 60/70 24 hrs E9

Horse-hung 6'4" 285-4319 E9

Thick 9" of u/c stud-meat on sexy
bod. Phone #: to: Box 245, 2269
Market, SF 94114 E9

Thick Stick Big Veins Big

Balls Uncut Hairy Yng G/L

GERMAN STUD

Beeper #997-2252 In/Out E9

Big 647-2625 Mac • Serious top-
man w/big thick juicy meat! 90%
repeats. Guaranteed you'll crave
another "Big Mac Attack"! E9

TWO SEXY MEN

J/O Massage/Fantasy

Out Only 24h 826-2969 E9

I Lay Back. Hung-Extra big

& thick-rippled stomach!

Jonny \$60 #626-3239 E9

MOUNTAIN OF MUSCLE

MONTANA: 6', 205, 48"C, 30"W
Competitive, body builder,
19" arms, manly, smooth,
NO TATTOOS
Richard of S.F. 821-3457

ITALIAN DADDY

Hung and Hairy
239-8419

THE STALLION

Bpr # 991-8406

Adam 647-8197
20 yrs/blonde
140 lbs./top E9

MATTHEW HARD HAT CONSTRUCTION WORKER



23-6', 180 lbs, 44"c, 30" w

RICHARD
OF SAN FRANCISCO
(415) 821-3457

EROTIC MASSAGE

FOR MEN 40+

LEE 928-2013

25, 5'9", 140#, Brn/Grn.

Near all major hotels

Just arrived from LA

Rambo

Bodybuilder 6' 205# Leather

Body Worship S/M B/D W/S

Steve 282-1943 E9

21 yr old boy blind blue smooth 9"
play room and toys call Skip
922-6322 24hr E9

Handsm guy likes to have it played
with (415) 863-6536 24 hrs.
E14

DON'T FANTASIZE

HOT IRISH/GREEK STUD

GQ looks 6' 175# 29" w br/br

8" c everything (safe)

\$100 Out Kelly 673-7147 E14

HOT JOCK

Full Equip GM RM

Light to Heavy

FF WS SM Leather

Bondage

Steve 584-3983 E11

ALL AMERICAN MALE

MITCH: 21, 5'11", 160lbs.

Clean cut — Well groomed.

College Jock — \$75.00

RICHARD OF S.F. 821-3457

HOT YNG BOY 19 YR.

"Anthony"

blond 6' 150# 8"

hndsm, healthy, safe only

S.F. Service Station 821-9988 E9

LEAN + MUSCULAR

995-2609 E9

BLOND STUD

YOUNG BODYBUILDER

5'9", 170#, 43"C, 28" w, 15" a

Smooth tan skin, Versatile

Hung thick • 621-0297 • E9

Man for Hire. Steven 6'2" 170

hard hairy 431-5974, E9

ROCK HARD

Young good looks. Masculine

Hung - defined build. Nights

Weekend. \$75 Guy 626-3239 E9

New! BLACK IS BEAUTIFUL

BEAU: 22, 6', 180 lbs., 42C, Black

Hair, Brown Eyes, Friendly, Vers.

and Well-Endowed, \$75/24 Hrs.

RICHARD OF SF 821-3457

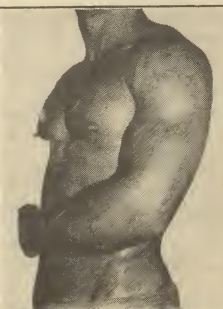
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- New Talented Men
- Healthy & Discreet
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- Male Strippers
- Casting for Movies
- All Ages & Types
- Catalog of Models Avail.
- MC/VISA O.K.

(415) 821-9988
Men featured in Playgirl, Mandate, Drummer, Inches, & Porno Stars!



JASON
175 lbs., 5'8 1/2", 46"C, 29"W
864-2070
\$115-VISA, MC O.K.

GYMNAST
Defined Swimmer's Build
ADAM 337-0661

St. looking macho mn. Big muscles 51" c 19" a 5'8" 212# hung. Don 647-8925 E10

ED WILEY
BEST IN THE WEST
HEAVY HUNG - HOT
One Week Only
584-5383 E9

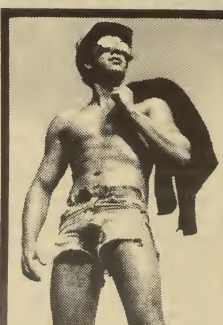
21 UNCUT 10" STUD
New to Town
Top Only.
Tom 552-3722 E9

WATCH THIS!
26 5'10" 155 sexy 7"/27 6' 170 thk 9" out 24h safe 826-2969 E9

★ ★ **YNG. STUD** ★ ★
24, 6', 160#
9" x 6 1/2"
Bro, Blu, Moust.
HAIRY CHEST
Smooth Defined Body
24 Hrs. In/Out
★ ★ "RICK" ★ ★
★ ★ (415) 431-9716 ★ ★

EX-FIREMAN
30, 5'10", 190 lbs., BR/BR,
8" + cut. Likes to lean back
while you work his hose.
861-7931
NO GREEK

Models & Escorts



JER 337-0661

HOT NY STUD
\$50/24 Hrs.
David 550-8616

Athletic Stud, 28
Smth., well defined swimmer's
body; hot, hung; ctn & safe. Verstl.
Mike 695-1287
(All types welcome; day or night) E9

EX-CON
HEAVY TATTOOS
24 hrs Craig 864-1750 E9
Sensual, safe C&B work by short
blond bodybuilder, Roger 864-
5566. Creative, safe. E9

UNCUT, HAIRY HUNK
6'2", 175#, hung top, 24 hrs, safe
\$40/\$50 Brian 864-8549 E10

Long Dong Tony 548-2005 E12

BIG DICK
BIG BALLS
Rex 974-6647 Anytime E9

TALL DARK HANDSOME
Italian, Hung Big. Will give mas-
sage in all the right places. Call
775-7184 Tony. E9

230 LB BLOND
MUSCLE STUD
BOB 563-5176
LEAVE MESSAGE

★ **SUPER BUFFED** ★
Comp B/B, 5'8" 212#
51"C, 19 1/4"A, 30"W
DON 647-8925

MOVE UP TO QUALITY,
NOT PRICE!
RICHARD OF S.F. 821-3457

BISEXUAL
Let big talented Dick take care
of your needs. Tops in my work.
Hung 9" Masculine Man
6', 185, Solid, Sociable
DICK 441-1707 \$60 UP

EX-CHIPPENDALE
STRIPPER
Italian stud, extra handsome,
well built B/B. Always on top.
6ft, 195lbs., long, thick, visuals,
bodywork. Mental/physical dom.
Satisfaction assured. Call Rex at
282-1943

• **Young College Student** •
Alan: 21, 5'6", 140 lbs.,
brown hair & eyes, hairy chest
Richard of S.F. 821-3457

Models & Escorts

RICHARD
OF SAN FRANCISCO

(415) 821-3457

FIRST & FOREMOST
SINCE 1968 WITH
SAN FRANCISCO'S FINEST
MALE MODELS & COMPANIONS
STANDARD RATES
HOUR, DAY, OR WEEK
Models Available Around Town
c. Around the Bay

• Please Book Early •
Travelers Checks and
In City Personal Checks
with proper ID are OK
Our Models & Companions
are Screened for your
Health, Security and
Peace of Mind, so
STAY HEALTHY WITH

RICHARD
OF SAN FRANCISCO

(415) 821-3457

Applicants Needed
Must Be Exceptional

ROGER OF S.F.
Short, intelligent bodybuilder (5'7", 165
lbs, 42C, 29W, 16A, dynamite legs!), ex-
pert in sensual physical S&M, C&B work.
Well equipped game room, creative mind.
Dominant but level-headed, discreet, and
absolutely safe.
(415) 864-5566

PRIVATE J.O.
SHOWS 863-1109
AVAILABLE THRU
"MOONLIGHTING"

BIG BUTT tall hairy blue-eyed
Daddy. Chad 861-7014 E11

HAIRY DADDY
TAKES CARE OF YOU
Muscles, Massage, and More
Handsome, Hung, Healthy Man
24 Hrs. Andy 821-9955 E12

HUNKY SWED
Handsome Hairy Tall Big Balls
Hung 24 hrs Axel 863-0252 E10

6'2", 31, 180, Hung, Top or
Bottom, Hairy Chest, Anytime
431-2316 Ric E9

Hung Straight Stud Digs Head
626-9816 E9

RYAN
Very Sexy, Masculine & Hung
27, 6'2", 185#, 8" x 6"
Versatile & Safe
24 hrs • VISA, MC, AMEX
861-3980

HOT BLACK MODELS
STEVE IS VERY BRITISH
RICHARD OF S.F. 821-3457

10" and Thick
5'9", 140#, 19 ya., good-looking
Puerto Rican from New York. Model
Build Body will snuggle you and
squeeze you, spend time with you to
please you. I'd like to see you.
Call Luis 771-7420 • 24 hrs.

You'll be totally helpless!
You'll have no control!!

!BONDAGE!

B&D-S&M-from sane, discreet
Leatherman Jack - 680-8959 E9

Long, thick dick—J/O exhib. plus.
M/F/Cpls ok. 922-3752 E9

Hung & Meaty Fr & Gr Dominant
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Bodybuilder fine body 34 5'5"
42" c 16" a top older men wel-
come \$80 Don 441-2584 E12

HUNG STUD
Thick and Big
GUS (415)469-7221

Models & Escorts

• **College Jock** •
Luke: Warm, sincere,
friendly, engaging smile
\$75—24 Hours Weekends
Richard of S.F. 821-3457



DAN

\$100

922-3645

VISA/MC ACCEPTED
(Additional \$25)

FF Teddy — Handsome man with
tiny, talented hands will lovingly
waft you to cosmic ecstasy. 626-
4130 E10

★ \$25—Hot Athlete. Hung nice ★
★ Bill 441-1054 Massage, etc. ★ E10

ROCK HARD STUD
28 yr. old Blond Bodybuilder,
6'1", 180, Extra Thick Tool.
Healthy, Safe and Sane, Satisfy
your wildest fantasy. Eves and
Wkends, Frank, 861-3679. Leave
number for call back. E10

• **Tall Lean Texan** •
Mark: 24, 6', 170 lbs, 40"C
31" w, hairy body, mustache
Richard of S.F. 821-3457

HOT BEARDED JOCK
JUST BACK FROM FIJI
5'8", 155 LBS/GDLKG BB
GREEN EYES, BLOND HAIR
SUNTANNED
826-3280

MOONLIGHTING
ESCORTS
&
COMPANIONS
863-1109
HEALTHY • DISCREET
PLEASE BOOK EARLY
OUT ONLY

VERY SPECIAL ALL DAY or
ALL EVENING RATES
RICHARD OF S.F. 821-3457

► **EXCEPTIONAL** ◀
Young, very attractive
Student w/nice body
Ave. endowed
19, 5'11", 150#, Blu/Brn
DALE 928-4896
Leave Message • \$80 +

ROGER 864-5566
Exotic bondage and restraint
fantasies fulfilled by a short,
handsome bodybuilder. Dominant
but safe, discreet, expert.

Models & Escorts

San Francisco's
Hottest Top

6ft., 185lbs., no-nonsense leather
man. 34 y.o., hot rugged good-
looking. Blond Master Expert into
W/S, S/M, F/F, verbal abuse,
bondage, T.T. Well equipped game
room. Sling, rack, mirror & toys.
Novices Welcome. Safe
controlled space

MAX 673-4221

MATTHEW
HARD HAT
CONSTRUCTION WORKER



23 - 6', 180 lbs, 44" c, 30" w

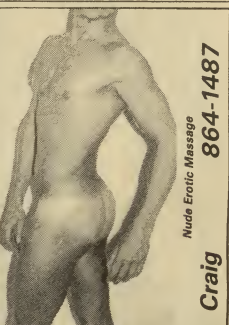
RICHARD
OF SAN FRANCISCO
(415) 821-3457

20 YR., HOT
PLAYFUL
DOMINANT VERBAL TOP
DK. BL. SMOOTH, WELL HUNG
Low Hangers, Cash, Credit Cards
Bruce 931-8257 \$60

REAL HOT MAN
5'11", 170#, Blk hair, blue eyes,
Gdlkg., BB, massage. Call Jim
431-1609 E12

HUGGABLE HUNK
Masculine caring 40 yr. man
Handsome, Versatile, Muscular,
Healthy, Hung, Vic, 821-9988 E12

6'4", 195#, hairy X-Army sgt.
Chuck 431-1579 E18



Nude Erotic Massage
864-1487
Craig

• **Handsome Blue-Eyed Blond** •
Brad: 22, 6', 170 lbs, 40" c
31" w - Young College Jock
Richard of S.F. 821-3457

TAKE A NEEDED BREAK
X-Handsome Muscular
Blonde 6'1" 195
Swedish Massage
Erotic, and Sensual
Improve Your Day Today For 1 Hr
It's Hard To Beat My Massage.
\$40 In / \$50 Out
Dick 441-1707 24 Hrs
Michigan Boy

BAY AREA REPORTER SPORTS & FITNESS

SOFTBALL

GSL Calendar

MARCH

2 (Mon): Lynda Bergren Benefit Performance, 8 p.m., City Cabaret, 401 Mason. All proceeds to Rainbow 'Roos, the AIDS outreach team. Tickets \$20.

6 (Fri): Dial of Fortune fundraiser for Phone Booth Operators, 7:30 p.m., The Booth, 25th at So. Van Ness. \$1 per entry.

14 (Sat): GSL Meeting, Noon, Cafe Sn. Marcos.

15 (Sun): Farewell to ChaCha, 4 p.m., Kokpit, Leavenworth at Turk.

16 (Mon): Copy Deadline for GSL Newsletter. 621-3788 for info.

17 (Tue): Bobby Pace/Kokpit St. Pat's Party, Kokpit, World Series fundraiser.

21 (Sat): BBQ and Raffle fundraiser, 2 p.m., El Rio, Mission past Army St.

22 (Sun): GSL Bowling, Noon, Park Bowl. \$10 per person, GSL fundraiser.

25 (Wed): Mr./Ms. GSL Kick-off Party, The Endup. Details TBA.

28 (Sat): GSL Meeting, Noon, The Pendulum.

AIDS Outreach Team Formed

by Tom Vindeed

The Rainbow Roos, yes, that's "Roos" as in Kangaroos, is a new self-sponsored AIDS outreach team in the Gay Softball League this year.

The idea for the team was originally developed as a means to remove the team from the bar scene after games and place it in a more positive area of the community. Yes, they still drink.

Founders of the team, Terry McCord, John Parsons, and Bob "Red" Clary, hope the team will be able to increase the involvement of the GSL with the AIDS community.

Plans include an outreach program with Shanti to provide transportation, lunch, and general support to patients wishing to attend games; visits to various hospital wards after the games;

sponsor and assist with Rita Rockett's Sunday brunch program; and assistance with other AIDS organizations are in the planning stages.

One of the premier cabaret singers in San Francisco, Lynda Bergren, has graciously donated her time and talent for a benefit performance for the team Monday, March 2, at 8 p.m. at the City Cabaret. Ticket information may be obtained by calling Terry at 822-3310 or 673-0845. For information on how to join the team, please give Terry a call at the numbers listed above.

I'm sure everyone in the GSL will get behind this team and the great work they have planned.

Saturday, Feb. 28, our esteemed commissioner, Rick Brattin, will MC the second half of the Cable Car Awards show at the Giftcenter. Some tickets are still available, but not at the GSL's four tables. Standing room is a good bet, and it's only \$10.

The winners will be listed next week if you can't make the show.

29 (Sun): Opening Day! Lang Field (Gough and Turk), starting at 11 a.m.

30 (Mon): Academy Awards Party, Village team fundraiser.

BOWLING

Masterful Maneuvering

by Jerry R. De Young

Recently, three exceptional achievements have been realized on the Park Bowl lanes by TGBL members. First, incredible as it may seem, on 2/2, the infamous 7-10 split was smartly converted by Richard Bee of the TGMBL Pinbusters. FYI, picking up this combination is such a rarity that only a few bowlers can attest to even having witnessed the occurrence. Second, on the same dynamic league, Mal Garcia, our inevitable multi-league treasurer, bowled an incredible 101 pins over his already impressive 166 average. The triumphant triumvirate was provided a final laurel by Doug Shaffer of the TGWBL Specialties by virtue of his magnificent 103 above-and-beyond 242 game.

Oh! If you have no plans for March 22, noon to 2:30, you might get a kick out of watching the Gay Softball League members learn to read the lanes at Park Bowl. Their annual Softball Bowling Challenge promises to be a frivolous frolic for some and delightful deja vu for others.

Another grand bowling event coming up shortly is the Fourth Annual Tri-City Team Bowling Tournament. It will be held Saturday, March 28, at Camino Bowl in Mountain View. The fee will be \$65 per five-person team (a/m, a/f, or mixed okay). There will be two squads, 12:30-3:30 and 3:30-6:30.

Handicap will be based on 80% of 1000. The prize fund will be returned 100%, with an optional \$3 sidepot. Entry deadline is March 21. For further information or entry forms, contact Mal Garcia, Keith Ray, or Tim Sipple.

Not prone to languish long in the waning warmth of fading fame, the vibrant Tavern Guild bowlers constantly strive to shatter standing gay bowling league records. The following list of TGWBL 200 and 600+ ers for 2/18 and 19 attests to the success of this healthy attitude.

Larry Kramer (634 series)	260
Randy Peterson (625 series)	257
Kelly Fisher	227
Bob Bates	224
Jay Kubovec	200 223
Gary Kenyon	223
Russ Beck (617 series)	202 221
John Games	214
Greg Hulliger (633 series)	212 210 211
Charley Jarrett	211
Bill Shandra	209
Jerry Pepper	209
Keith Ray	208 203
Adrian Stenson	205 204
Geno Gales	204
Eric Tuff	203
Buddy Hunt	202
Gary Thackeray	200

PARK BOWL TAVERN GUILD BOWLING LEAGUES

S.F. WOMEN'S BUSINESS LEAGUE (Week 18 of 26 - as of 2/8/87)			TAVERN GUILD WEDNESDAY LEAGUE (Week 17 of 22 - as of 2/11/87)		
1. Express Comp.	46	22	1. Play With It, Ltd.	48	20
2. Mona Tong Realty	45	23	2. The Leftovers	47	21
3. Park Bowl	44	24	3. Pilner Pin Guins	46	22
4. Awards By Chris	44	24	4. Ram's Head Bar	43	25
5. Olive Oil's	42½	25½	5. Whirl & Twirl Girls	43	25
6. Artemis Cafe	41	27	6. Park Bowl	42	26
7. Amelia's	37½	30½	7. S.F. Eagle	38½	29½
8. Spare Us	34	34	8. Pilner #1	38	30
9. Franco's Coffee	33½	34½	9. OTR Again Travel	38	30
10. Mary's Futons	33	35	10. Quite Tita's	36½	31½
11. Sidney's Pinheads	32½	35½	11. Dick's At The Beach	34½	33½
12. Jeffes & Associates	32	36	12. For Your Eyes Only	33½	34½
13. Cassidy Cabinets	32	36	13. Pilner Pintless Sisters	32½	35½
14. S.F. Reporting	31½	36½	14. Pilner Potlickers	31½	36½
15. Women's Training Ctr	30½	37½	15. Marina Resort	30½	37½
16. Maud's Squad	28	40	16. Village Buddies	30	38
17. Cafe Commons	26	42	17. Opus I	29	39
18. About Paper +	23	45	18. Pendulum Pandas	26	42
19. Better Natural	22	46	19. DK's Unmentionables	25	43
20. Code Blue	21	43	20. Pin Pricks	21½	46½
			21. Specialties	20	48
			22. Gutter Girls	17	51

TAVERN GUILD MONDAY LEAGUE (Week 16 of 21 - as of 2/9/87)			THURSDAY TAVERN GUILD LEAGUE (Week 18 of 22 - as of 2/19/87)		
1. Park Bowl	41½	22½	1. Wooden Horse	51	21
2. Pilner Powder Puffs	41	23	2. Play With It, Ltd.	50	22
3. Watering Holes	38½	25½	3. Park Bowl	47	25
4. Pendulum	37	27	4. Sticky Bun Bears	44	28
5. Mr. Pilner	36	28	5. Cock-A-Doodle-Do	43	29
6. Play With It, Ltd.	35	29	6. Brocadero	42	30
7. Pinbusters	35	29	7. Belden 22	41	31
8. C.C. Riders	35	29	8. S.F. Eagle	41	31
9. 757 Medical	35	29	9. Paradise Lounge	40	32
10. Inside Out	34½	29½	10. Dive Inn	38	34
11. Capricorn Coffee	33	31	11. Just Trax	35	37
12. Pilner Pintless Sisters	32	32	12. Trax Trash	34½	37½
13. Mus/Nic Construction	31½	32½	13. Wild Balls	34	38
14. Rainbow Bears	29	35	14. The 69 Club	32½	39½
15. Station Go Aheads	28	36	15. Inside Out	32	40
16. Team #10	28	36	16. Station Studs	31	41
17. The Club	25	39	17. PB Wrong #s	28	44
18. Welcome Home	23	41	18. Crescent City Cafe	26½	45½
19. Pin Tweakers	23	41	19. The Clean-up Artists	26	46
20. The Hula Associates	18	46	20. Spare Us	26	46
			21. Superstar Video	25½	46½
			22. Capricorn Coffee	24	48

Team Standings
Compiled by Jerry R. De Young

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S.F. Swimmers Overcome Hassles; Gay Championships Next

by Hal Herkenhoff

After long bureaucratic delays, the new San Francisco lesbian and gay swim team has won approval to use S.F. Rec and Park's King Pool for weekly practice sessions. The team, called the S.F. Tsunami Gay and Lesbian Swim Club, is forming a permanent club for competitive and fitness swimmers following their efforts as San Francisco's highly successful Gay Games II swim team. It had been hoped that the team would be able to use the Boys and Girls Club pool at Page and Stanton streets, but retracted promises and bureaucratic mix-ups at the Boys and Girls Club have delayed the team's practices for the last four months.

"It's been very frustrating to have to wait this long for a pool site, but we're very happy to finally have a pool to practice and to just get together," said team spokesperson Tim Elliott. The practices will be only once a week at the present on Sundays from 10 a.m. until noon. King Pool is located at Third Street and Carroll, the site of the Gay Games II team practices. Negotiations for the use of Boys and Girls Club's pool will continue with the hope of adding weekday practices, according to Elliott.

All swimmers on the Tsunami team are expected to join the local Pacific Masters Swimming Association even though they may not plan on entering competition. The PMS membership will enable swimmers to enter competitions nationally and will also provide their insurance, a necessity for any team that is renting pool space. The PMS was also the sanctioning body for the swim portion of Gay Games II and provided many officials. Membership is \$13 a year and information will be provided by the club.

To join the Tsunamis, there is

a \$30 membership fee for the year and a \$2 practice fee for each session you attend. The team has already grown to 30 swimmers and is also open to non-gay swimmers. To obtain more information, call 931-6645 ext. 403. The first practice is scheduled for Sunday, March 1, at 10 a.m. at King Pool, pending the completion of annual repairs. All swimmers are asked to call the information line to confirm this first practice.

The first West Coast Gay Swim League Short-Course Swimming Championships in San Diego March 21-22 will be the first meet for the Tsunamis. Hosted by the Different Strokes Swim Team of San Diego, this meet will be the reunion of the various teams from the Gay Games, as swimmers are expected from New York City, Denver, Vancouver, Seattle, San Francisco, West Hollywood, Dallas and San Diego. Team scoring will be emphasized and a team trophy will be awarded, unlike the medals given at the Games. Events will include 50s, 100s, and 200s in each of the four strokes, plus 500 Free and 200 Individual Medley. Relays will be free, but there is a \$2 charge per event. For more information, contact the Tsunami information line or call Meet Director Mark Wussler at (619) 283-0909. The meet will be held at San Diego's Allied Gardens Pool, a 25-yard outdoor pool with six lanes. Spectators are welcome, and it should be worth an eyeful!

Congratulations to Cable Car Awards nominees Tim Elliott, Monty Allport, and Colston Young for the men and to Melon Dash, Houston Le Brun, and Maria Pease for the women. Good luck to you all! Thank you for all you've done to bring swimming and diving into the gay community!

POOL

Vive La Differance

by Lauren Ward

The S.F. Pool Association's 18th season is under way and many of the players on its 32 teams are discovering the differences between league and bar pool.

Bar pool generally means total offence call-shot in which every nuance of an intended shot must be explained in advance to one's opponent. Most experienced league players prefer the broadening of the game which league rules allow. The playing of "safes," commonly seen in tournament play, are at best frowned upon under bar rules. The S.F.P.A. league rules are based on Billiard Congress of America rules and have evolved over many seasons to allow and even encourage the use of different strategies in the quest for victory.

The primary means of sharing strategic advice with a teammate is during the two-minute time out. At any time during a league game either the player or team captain is allowed to call "time" in order to discuss approaches to the current dilemma. While many feel that three allowable time-outs per game is excessive, it does tend to help a less-experienced player be more competitive. During a time-out a player should never be "ordered" to do something because this invites failure. Ideally

several suggestions are offered on dealing with the situation from which the player can choose. The ultimate responsibility for each game's outcome rests with the player, not the coach.

One of the essential traits a serious pool player should cultivate is adaptability. Wherever you go to play you'll experience different rules, equipment, and temperaments. I can remember feeling disgusted the first time I saw a player intentionally scratch or even sink his opponent's ball to gain an advantage. What seemed to be sneaky was simply an element of strategy. Even if you don't win a game you can make some satisfaction from providing your opponent with challenging situations.

I'd like to take this opportunity to thank Gene Miller for his services in preparing of the league's statistics in past seasons. His professionalism and dedication were well appreciated. League Secretary, Torri Connelly, has volunteered to assume the responsibility. The S.F.P.A. Board of Directors wishes Gene the best of luck with his Wordmagic word processing business. Gene's Corner Pocket column was my fore-runner and a source of inspiration.

TENNIS

Thrilling Tennis Outlook For 1987

by Les Balmain

"First, I would like to point out that gay tennis players new to the city can meet and play tennis with the members of the Gay Tennis Federation every day of the year (except days of rain-out)," said Chris Walkley, newly elected president of the G.T.F., "at two sets of tennis courts, located up the hill two blocks west of Castro on 15th Street, or off Castro up the steep grade for one block on 16th Street.

"And secondly, with the G.T.F. entering its seventh year," added Chris, "our executive board is determined to get the word out to the whole gay community of our many exciting events and tennis competitions! In 1986, the G.T.F. ended the year with a roster of 130 members, including 12 women. We are now on a membership drive and are especially encouraging women to join."

"Last year was very successful for the Gay Tennis Federation," remarked vice president Tom Neville, "and the new officers of the executive board are eagerly looking forward to the challenge of working on the many events scheduled for this year. We hope to maintain the high standards attained in the past, and are dedicated to making the social and competitive events of 1987 as exciting as possible!"

The G.T.F. calendar of events for 1987 includes the following: January, membership drive, year-round competition on the Challenge Ladder; February, 2nd Annual San Diego Open Tennis Tournament, Cable Car Awards; March, Team Tennis organization and sponsor recruitment; April, 6th Annual Membership Doubles Tournament, Team Tennis play begins; May, 7th Annual "United States Gay Open" Na-

tional Tennis Tournament on Memorial Day weekend (the original and "Grand Daddy" of open gay tennis tournaments); August, 3rd Annual Mixed Doubles Tournament, "The Jim Holloran Classic" (8th Annual Membership Tournament), Team Tennis play-offs; September, Sacramento Challenge, 5th Annual Los Angeles Open; October, Dallas Open, 2nd Annual California Cup Challenge, election of officers; November, 6th Annual Awards Banquet and Installation of Officers, Houston Open; and December, 3rd Annual Shanti Food Drive and Christmas Party.

People interested in obtaining information and entry forms for the Gay Tennis Federation may contact the secretary, Michael DeGarmo, 285-2283, or write to: Gay Tennis Federation, 2215 R Market St., #109, San Francisco, CA 94114.

1987 AIDS Bike-A-Thon

The 1987 AIDS Bike-A-Thon is set to roll Saturday, May 9. Last year 650 riders raised \$226,000 for eight AIDS charities. This year, Different Spokes Bicycle Club, the event sponsor, has set a goal of 1,000 riders and \$400,000 in pledges for 11 AIDS service organizations. Riders can choose from three routes: a flat 25-mile city loop, a 60-mile City to Marin

loop, or an ambitious 100-mile ride through Marin.

One hundred percent of all pledge monies go directly to benefit programs for people with AIDS. The beneficiary organizations are the AIDS Emergency Fund, AIDS Health Project, AIDS Hospice/Coming Home Hospice, AIDS Project of the East Bay, 18th Street Services,

Ellipse, The Godfather Service Fund, Marin County AIDS Network, Open Hand, S.F. AIDS Foundation, and The Shanti Project.

Please join in striking a blow against the AIDS epidemic — and have a good time doing it! Call 771-0677 today for more information and a registration packet.



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Empress Tina Tanner and Emperor Patrick McGonigle exult in their victory
(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)



The Widow Norton intones as Sable Clown confers the crown
(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)



Members of the San Francisco Imperial Family stand proud at the Coronation
(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)

Legends, Myths & Magic



An occasional fairy was spotted at the Coronation
(Photo: S. Martin)



Former Empress Sissy Spaceout gets a hand up
(Photo: PhotoGraphics/Darlene)



Former Empress Sable Clown rises out of the fog

(Photo: R. Pruzan)

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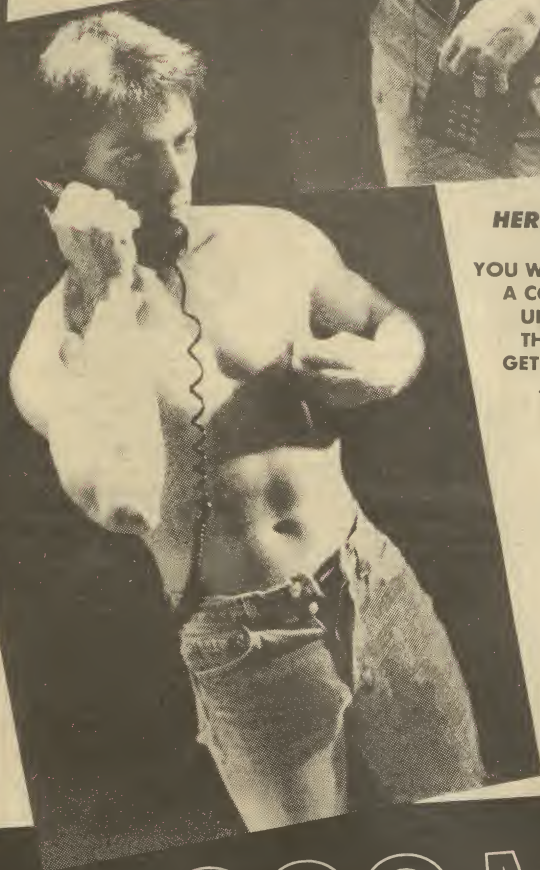
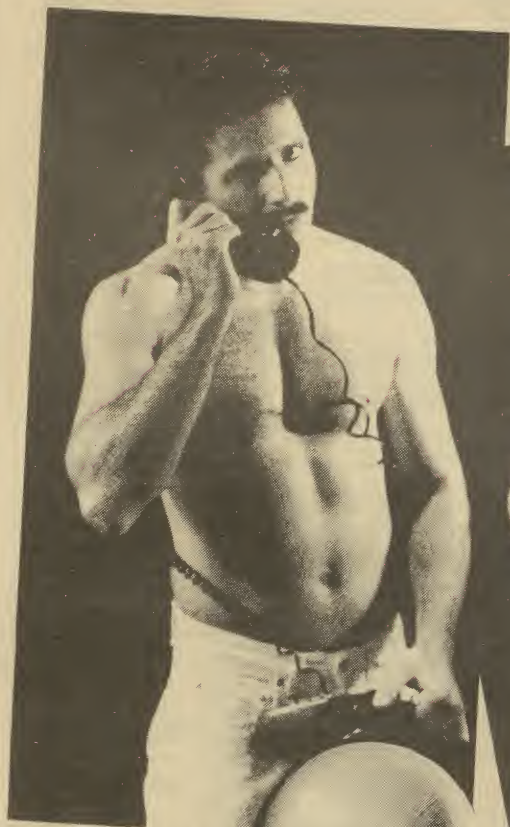
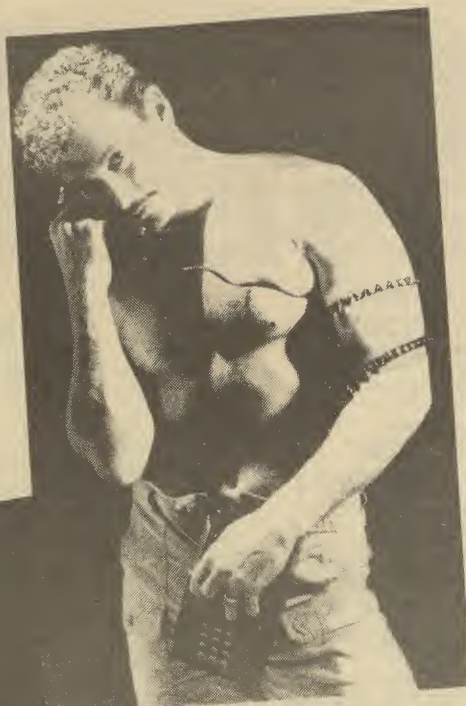
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